

NEWS SUMMARY

Little hope for Siamese twins

Surgeons at Southmead hospital, Bristol, were last night unsure if Siamese twins, born joined at the chest and sharing the same heart and lungs, could be separated. They were studying X-rays and ultrasound scans to see if there was any chance of saving the babies, who weighed 8lb 13ozs between them when they were delivered by Caesarean section on Wednesday.

Experts have said successful separation is almost impossible if two or more organs are shared. It is likely to be two days before the parents, who have not been named, will know if the babies will survive.

GLC payment legal

Payment of £78 million by the Greater London Council to a property company three days before its abolition, for the upkeep and improvement of its housing stock, was ruled lawful by the High Court in London yesterday.

The London Residuary Body, supported by Hillingdon council, sought to have the payment ruled unlawful, saying that it should have been passed on to the LRB and eventually the boroughs. But Mr Justice Macpherson said that he was satisfied the payment was a "justifiable and proper" exercise of the GLC's powers.

He ordered the LRB and Hillingdon to pay the costs of the property company Satman Developments who defended the action.

Surgery for actor Talks on pay plan

The actor Bill Simpson, aged 54, who is seriously ill in hospital, had a minor operation yesterday. His condition was said to be poor but stable. Mr Simpson, best known for his television role in *Dr Finlay's Casebook*, was taken to hospital in April 11 days ago.

He was transferred to Ballochmyle Hospital near Mauchline, Strathclyde, for yesterday's operation, and will remain there over the weekend.

2 on IRA charges

Gerard Kelly (right) and Brendan McFarlane, two convicted IRA terrorists, appeared in court in Belfast yesterday after being extradited from the Netherlands. Both face charges of holding prison officers hostage during mass breakout from the Maze prison in 1983. Kelly is also accused of two attempted murders and assault.

A representative of the Director of Public Prosecutions said the Government would remit two life sentences Kelly was serving.

Alert on typhoid

A man aged 30 is in St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, suffering from typhoid. He was admitted four days ago, but his illness was not confirmed until this afternoon.

The man's name is not being released, but he lives in the Portsmouth area and his condition is described as being comfortable.

Everyone who has been in close contact with him since his return from holiday in south east Asia three weeks ago is being closely monitored.

They live in Portsmouth, London and Lincoln, and will be under close scrutiny during the incubation period of typhoid, which is from three to 21 days. Symptoms of the illness are head and back ache, a rash and fever.

Nuclear power

Unit studies Sizewell report

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A special unit has been formed at the Department of Energy to analyse the public inquiry report on plans for an advanced £1.2 billion nuclear power station at Sizewell, Suffolk.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, expected delivery of the conclusions by this weekend, nearly four years after the inquiry began.

The Government will not publish the report before a detailed scrutiny, taking some weeks, is completed by the new unit and Mr Walker has reached a decision.

The proposal by the Central Electricity Generating Board is for permission to build an American-type pressurized water reactor (PWR) next to its existing Magnox nuclear power station at Sizewell, on the Suffolk coast.

For the past 20 months a team working with Sir Frank Layfield, QC, the inspector to the inquiry, has distilled the information from 340 days of hearings into a more intelligible form.

The material includes public cross-examinations and a

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Hindley delay frustrates moors search

By Our Northern Correspondent

The officer in charge of the search of Saddleworth Moor is to again seek permission from the Home Office to take Myra Hindley, jailed along with Ian Brady for the moors murders, to the scene of the hunt.

Chief Superintendent Peter Topping, head of Greater Manchester CID, said after returning from the search scene yesterday that he was anxious she should be taken to the site as soon as possible.

Mr Topping, who has made no secret of his eagerness to take Hindley to the moor under a heavy police guard, believes a visit could end the case, which is now in its 22nd year and has become part of international murder folklore.

Twice in the past two weeks Mr Topping has met senior Home Office officials for talks on the search. He has told them he is convinced that a brief visit to Saddleworth Moor by Hindley will bring the inquiry to a rapid conclusion.

Each time he has travelled on to Cockham Wood Prison, Kent, to seek further information from Hindley to strengthen his case for her temporary release from a life sentence.

Speculation is mounting as to why Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, is prevaricating over the official police request for a visit.

The expensive police search for the graves of two children who disappeared over 20 years ago has been continuing for 16

days without success. An average of 15 Greater Manchester police tactical support group officers and eight body detection dogs and their handlers are combing the gales-lashed moor from dawn to dusk.

The Prison Department press office has refused to discuss the reasons for the delay in a decision by Mr Hurd, and will not speculate as to how long Mr Topping will have to wait. A spokesman would only say yesterday that "various aspects" of the

case were still being considered.

Mr Hurd has also refused to reveal his intentions. Senior police officers believe that Whitehall inertia could strangle the investigation before it can properly succeed.

They are claiming that as sniffer dogs roam relentlessly over bleak peat bogs, and two mothers sit hoping that the bodies of their lost children can be found, the mantle of secrecy has grown tighter around Whitehall.

Stalker saves house as his legal fees are 'halved'

By Ian Smith, Northern Correspondent

Solicitors unexpectedly more than halved their legal charges yesterday so Mr John Stalker, Greater Manchester deputy chief constable, will no longer have to forfeit his home after clearing his name.

Instead of facing repayment of a £21,000 legal bill, Mr Stalker is being asked to pay only a sum already offered through public donations to a special fund set up in his name.

Back at his police headquarters desk for the first time yesterday after taking two weeks' rest because of exhaustion, Mr Stalker said he was deeply grateful.

"I hope this will be the final chapter if not the last page of the Stalker affair. What this has done is allow me and my family to for the first time know exactly where we stand financially. It is an enormous relief," he said.

"We have been living on our nerves for an awfully long time; two weeks' rest helped, this news helps even more."

The unusually philanthropic gesture by the senior police officers' legal advisers came just 24 hours after the Association of Chief Police Officers refused to contribute towards Mr Stalker's legal bill and declined a Greater Manchester Police Authority request that they administer the fund set up to handle public donations.

Mr Roger Penne, who has championed Mr Stalker's prolonged struggle to protect his professional and private reputation, is enraged by the financial pressures piled on his client.

He said: "We have discussed the matter thoroughly and after further consideration have decided to ask Mr Stalker to pay only the

sum which he has readily available and which will not cause his family further pressure."

Mr Penne said he knew that at times the pressures on the Stalker family, which had been enormous because of the official police investigation, had been exacerbated by mounting legal costs.

Mr Penne has fought long and hard to try to persuade the Greater Manchester Police Authority to foot the bill but without success.

"What has infuriated me throughout is that John Stalker has been penalized for being innocent," Mr Penne added.

At a joint meeting of the Police Authority's finance and policy and personnel committee yesterday members decided to recommend that no action be taken over a year-long investigation by Sir Stanley Bailey, Northumbria Chief Constable, into allegations of misconduct by Greater Manchester Chief Constable James Anderson.

The outspoken Mr Anderson infuriated members of the now defunct Greater Manchester Police Authority by telling delegates at a County Police Federation meeting that the committee was obsessed with irrelevant issues and had mounted a deliberate and sustained assault upon the independence and status of chief constables.

Mr Steve Murphy, police authority chairman, said it would be inappropriate to take any action on Sir Stanley's investigation which made no recommendations and reached no conclusions but brought into question the legality of such an inquiry being ordered in the first place.

Mr Colin Evans, aged 31, and Mr Philip Hartlebury, aged 36, were detained in Harare under emergency powers on December 31, 1981 and brought to trial for allegedly spying for South Africa and illegally possessing arms.

The men, both former members of the country's Central Intelligence Organisation, yesterday admitted being involved in "normal intelligence work" but denied having spied for Pretoria.

Asked why he thought they had been arrested, Mr Hartlebury said: "Basically, after independence there were too many whites around."

The Foreign Office in London said last night that release would remove a long-standing consular problem between Britain and Zimbabwe.



Sir Robert Armstrong facing reporters at Heathrow Airport (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Armstrong has police guard

By David Sapsted

Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary and the Government's much-quoted protagonist in the Peter Wright spy-book case, returned to London yesterday conscientiously retaining his out-of-court reluctance to speak about the affair.

It was nice to be back in London, he declared, but he

would miss some of the aspects of life in Sydney.

Exactly what aspects, he would not say.

Looking remarkably spry after his 25-hour flight Sir Robert stepped off Qantas flight QF601 to be met by a squad of police. He spent 20 minutes at a Heathrow VIP lounge before being driven away in a limousine.

He stonewalled questions on

his "economical" use of the truth in evidence to the court ("The case is still going on so I can't make any comment") and was no more forthcoming about the political storm surrounding the affair in Britain ("I haven't really seen what's been going on here").

He also declined to comment on the scuffle with photographers that marked his departure from Australia.

Secondary heads back out of deal

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The Secondary Heads Association yesterday refused to ratify the agreement on the pay and conditions of teachers in England and Wales.

The deal was put together three weeks ago at the conciliation service, Acas, and signed by four of the six unions.

In a severe blow to the deal's already fragile credibility, the association, which represents about half of secondary head teachers, and was one of the original signatories, decided unanimously that it would not ratify the agreement unless it provided an improved management structure.

The unexpected development means that the association has effectively aligned itself with the National Association of Head Teachers, which represents most other heads and refused to sign the original deal, as did the second biggest teaching union, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers.

The Secondary Heads Association changed its mind after taking soundings among its 5,400 members.

Its general secretary, Mr Peter Snape, said: "Our members welcomed the deal's significant achievements, in particular the new contract and conditions of service, the introduction of appraisal and the new negotiating machinery."

But they want an additional management tier on top of the two that have been

Militant 'stooge' in marginal

By Sheila Gunn
Political Staff

The Labour candidate to be selected today to fight the marginal Blyth Valley seat in the general election will be "a stooge" of the Militant Tendency, Mr John Ryman, the moderate sitting MP, said yesterday.

Mr Ryman, aged 56, has represented the area for 12 years. He is to stand down at the next election after a year of fights with his local party which, he said, had been infiltrated by supporters of Militant.

On the surface his position is similar to that of Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, who claimed that Militant supporters hounded him out of his Knowsley North constituency.

But the future of Mr Ryman's Northumberland seat is more uncertain because Labour's majority is only 3,243.

Mr Ryman, who has threatened to force a by-election unless there is an inquiry into the conduct of business, has distanced himself from the selection.

"It is entirely a matter for the local constituency Labour Party to select a new Labour candidate," he said.

But he added: "The actual power in the local party is controlled by the Militant Tendency. Whoever is selected will be controlled by Militant Tendency and its supporters."

Disquiet as firm loses out on £220m

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

The Government yesterday awarded two companies a joint £220 million contract for battlefield ammunition transporters known as DROPS, but conspicuously failed to still a mounting political furor over its alleged intimidation, exclusion and mistreatment of a third interested company.

The Comptroller and Auditor General is to investigate, and this may lead to a full inquiry by the Commons Public Accounts Committee.

Mr Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal trade spokesman, and Mr Jim Wallace, Liberal defence spokesman, yesterday tabled a Commons motion calling for a full independent inquiry.

Sir Ian Gilmour MP, himself a former Conservative defence secretary, last night described the affair as "a scandal which will not be allowed to rest".

The Ministry of Defence awarded the contract to Scammell, part of Leyland Vehicles, and to Foden's, a British subsidiary of the American company, Paccar, which is currently bidding for Leyland Trucks.

The company at the centre of the controversy, however, is Boughmans of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, in Sir Ian's constituency, which pioneered the idea of such transporters and which is understood to be considering legal action against the ministry.

It has been alleged that Boughmans was unfairly excluded from the trials process, that its patents have been stolen, and that it has subsequently been subjected to heavy pressure from the ministry not to make a fuss.

Answering these charges at a press conference yesterday, Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, ruled out an independent inquiry but said that the ministry had agreed to an examination of alleged patent infringements.

General Sir Richard Vincent, who heads the ministry's procurement operations, denied that Boughmans had been pressurised into discontinuing itself from a BBC *Panorama* programme last July which was critical of the ministry.

Area finals for crossword championship

By Our Crossword Editor

Next year's Collins Dictionary Times Crossword Championship will again have six regional finals before the national final, but this time the West of England centre will be Bath instead of Bristol, and the Leeds final will precede the Glasgow final.

The qualifying puzzle for the 1987 Championship will be published on Thursday, January 15, and the eliminator puzzle, assuming it is necessary, on Thursday, February 19.

The regional finals will be: Leeds, Queens Hotel (capacity 300 competitors), Sunday, March 1; Glasgow, Stakis Grosvenor Hotel (150), Sunday, March 15; Birmingham, Grand Hotel (250), Sunday, April 26; Bath, Ladbroke Beaufort Hotel (240), Sunday, May 17; London A, Saturday, June 6, and London B, Sunday, June 7, Park Lane Hotel (300).

The national final will be at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on Sunday, September 6.

Engineer dies

An investigation was underway yesterday into the death of Mr John Tilsley, aged 56, an engineering contractor of Ardington Road, Northampton, who was found at the bottom of a heat treatment tank at the Rolls Royce factory in Derby.

By The Times newspaper
Rolls Royce Ltd, Derby, has been told that Mr Tilsley, 56, died on Sunday, December 5, 1986, at the bottom of a heat treatment tank at the Rolls Royce factory in Derby.

Bar puts computers in dock

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Bar takes a step into the high-technology age today when more than 300 barristers and clerks meet in London to discuss how to bring their chambers up to date.

The first of its kind, the conference is a sign of the wind of modernization blowing through the ancient passages of the Inns of Court.

The old-style barristers' chambers, with draughty rooms and creaking staircases, are slowly dying out as coal fires have already done.

Now is the time for computers, walk-to-wall carpeting and soft lighting.

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, chairman of the Bar, said that administration had in the past taken second place to a barrister's main work of preparing court cases, which "involve long hours".

But sets of chambers had grown in size and were substantial businesses which had to be cost-effective and competitive. "No-one owes us a living. No set can afford to be less than efficiently run."

The conference, organized jointly by the Bar and the Barristers' Clerks' Association, takes place against a doubling in size of the Bar in recent years. Chambers now average 20 members, and one or two sets have as many as 50.

At the same time the impact of computers is being felt in the shape of word processors, and computer systems for accounting and keeping track of fees and work in progress.

Mr Alexander said there was great interest in good administration and in improving the service for the client, and this meant using tele-

systems and electronic mail.

"The public sees the wigs and gowns in which a barrister dresses for court and the beautiful buildings of the Temple," he said. But that tended to conceal the speed with which the profession was adapting its practices.

Topics to be discussed at the conference will include the financing of chambers, including the controversial issue of "purse-sharing", by which barristers pool their fees and draw a salary.

But there is one traditional feature of chambers life which will not be open to debate: the clerk's fee. Clerks are paid a percentage of the earnings of the barristers whose affairs they handle, and a senior clerk often earns £40,000 a year, with a few making £70,000.

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'Jaffe juice' doctor is guilty of misconduct but keeps his practice

By Michael Horsnell

The doctor accused of turning a wealthy patient into a "zombie" with an addictive drug concoction called "Jaffe juice" was found guilty yesterday of serious professional misconduct.

But Dr Joseph Jaffe, who specializes in private hypnotherapy, escaped with an admonishment from the General Medical Council.

After Dr Jaffe, aged 61, promised that he would no longer use drugs when he hypnotized patients at his consulting rooms in Manchester, the council allowed him to continue in practice.

He is said to have 2,000 National Health Service patients but only three private patients whom he hypnotizes.

Mr George Waterson, aged 49, a businessman from Altrincham, Cheshire, who

leged that five years of drug treatment ruined his business and nearly wrecked his marriage, said afterwards that he was saddened by the outcome. Police, who were awaiting the result of the hearing, have begun an inquiry into the case.

It is understood that a report has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

During the record 16-day hearing in London it was alleged that Mr Waterson fell under Dr Jaffe's spell and was turned into a zombie by "Jaffe juice" during a course of treatment for which he paid between £35,000 and £60,000.

Mr Waterson, married with four children, was referred to Dr Jaffe by his GP in 1978, because he was suffering from stress.

By the end of his association he was allegedly living on the breadline and feeling suicidal, while his once-prosperous bicycle business went into liquidation.

He took on Dr Jaffe's own accountant and allegedly lost all control of the company finances.

The cause of the trouble was said to be the drug concoction with which he was injected up to five times a week, consisting primarily of Briotol, a barbiturate manufactured for use as an anaesthetic, which Dr Jaffe administered before hypnotizing him.

Mr Waterson, who used to drive a Rolls Royce, is defending a High Court case brought by Barclays Bank for the repossession of his house.

The General Medical Council's professional conduct committee found Dr Jaffe

guilty after a 90-minute deliberation.

Principally it found that he had improperly persisted in treating Mr Waterson in such a way as to adversely affect his capacity to fulfil his domestic and business responsibilities.

Mr David Bolt, the committee chairman, said that the committee had reached its conclusion on the basis of expert evidence on the effect of the drug on patients and on Dr Jaffe's failure to warn Mr Waterson of these effects.

He told Dr Jaffe: "The committee have judged you guilty of serious professional misconduct."

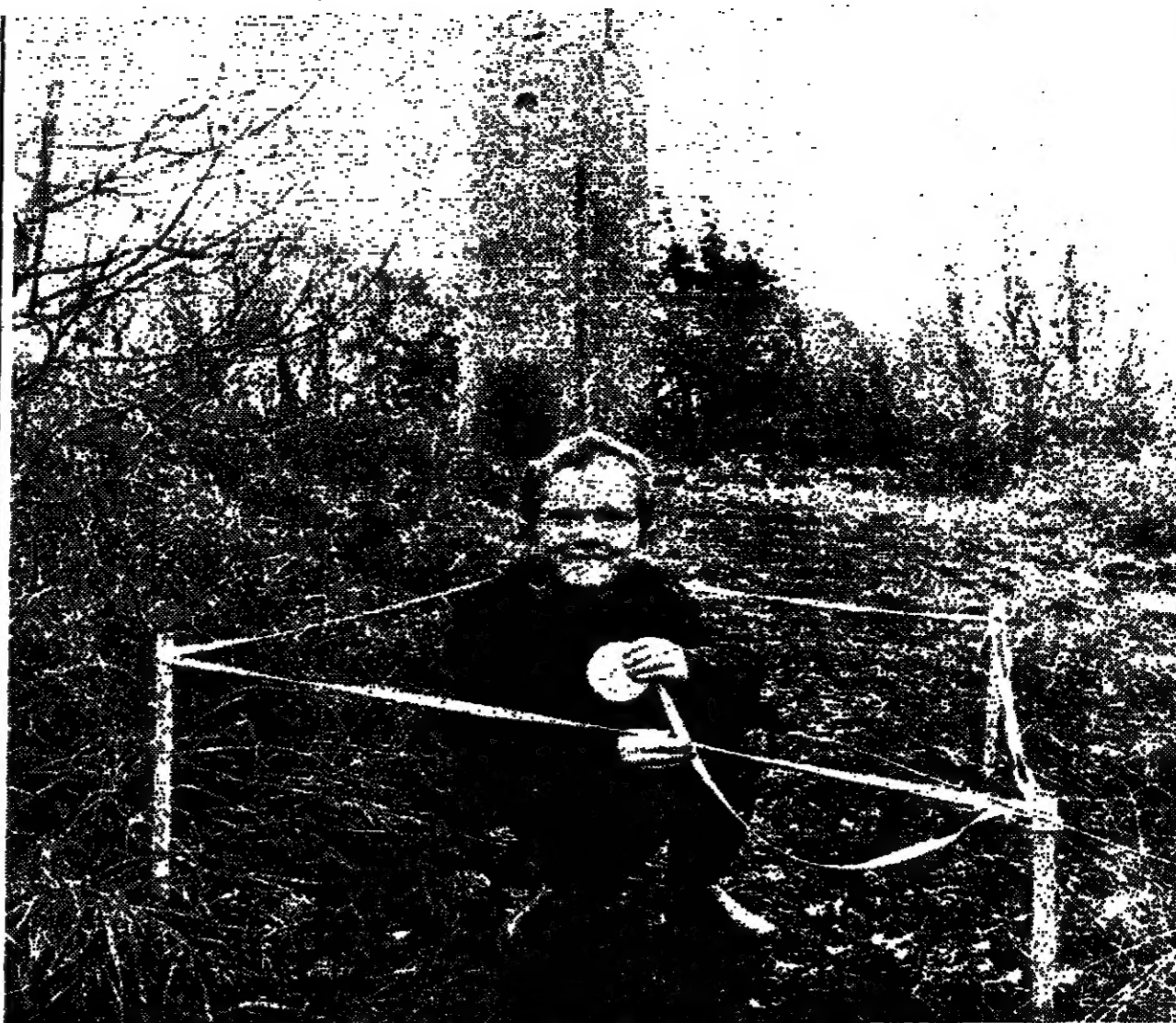
"However, they have felt able to take account of counsel's representations made on your behalf and your undertaking that you will not in future use any drug in connection with hypnotherapy in the treatment of patients."

Mr Waterson, who left the hearing grim-faced on the arm of his wife Ann, a nurse, said: "It has been a terrible ordeal. It has been terribly upsetting for me and my family. I really want to put it behind me. I just feel terribly sad."

Dr Jaffe said: "I will make my comments in my own time. I have no idea when I will start work again."

He refused to say whether he felt disgraced or relieved. Mrs Eleanor Jaffe said: "Of course I am relieved."

Mr Anthony Arledge, QC, counsel for Dr Jaffe, had told the hearing that the doctor had reasonable grounds for his faith in the injections which he gave Mr Waterson but that he would never use drugs again.



Daniel Hammond, aged five, wraps up his Christmas present — a small piece of England (Photograph: Paul Walters).

Buy a slice of England for £12 this Christmas

Tiny parts of England are up for sale for Christmas. Six thousand plots of land, each measuring no more than one square metre, can be snapped up for a "bargain" £12.

But there is a catch — new owners will not be able to build on their plot.

It is a fund-raising scheme by the conservation group Friends of the Earth, which had the idea of selling off an acre of land adjoining a nature reserve at Batford, Avon.

The land, beside the Brown's Folly nature reserve, will be kept as a wilderness to protect rare butterflies. Well-established flora on the site include Twayblade and the Common Spotted Orchid.

The land was donated to Friends of the Earth by a local family who want to remain anonymous.

Now Friends of the Earth is hoping to buy more land in Avon with the £50,000 it

Crisis for physics lessons in schools

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

New evidence of the crisis in physics teaching in schools is revealed in a survey published yesterday by the subject's main professional body, the Institute of Physics.

It reports that nearly one physics lesson in five in Britain is taught by someone not qualified in the subject. And it finds that a lack of time and a chronic shortage of resources are together making physics teaching in secondary schools "difficult, if not unbearable".

Responding to a questionnaire, the heads of physics in a sample of schools reported that their teaching groups were too big; they did not have enough laboratory equipment, books or technician support; and that their working conditions were often dirty, cramped and inadequately ventilated.

The survey, the first of its

Bill aims for safer sports grounds

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs
Correspondent

New powers to ensure safety in sports grounds after the Bradford fire disaster last year are proposed in a government Bill published yesterday.

Local authorities will be able to subject to right of appeal to courts, to issue notices restricting or prohibiting admission to grounds where there are serious risks to spectators. The new power will replace the present need for a local authority to apply to a magistrates' court first.

Under the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Bill, local authorities will be required to carry out inspections of certificated sports grounds and stands in accordance with Home Office guidance.

There will be a new system of safety certificates for stands which hold 500 or more spectators under cover at sports grounds, mostly the smaller ones which are not designated under Section 1 of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975.

The Bill also provides for local authorities to licence certain indoor premises to which the public are invited as spectators.

This will bring them into line with present arrangements to licence music, dancing and other entertainments, thus removing an anomaly highlighted by Mr Justice Popplewell's inquiry into the Bradford fire.

Judges ponder CS gas plea

Judgement was reserved in the High Court yesterday over new powers which enable chief constables to provide plastic bullets and CS gas against the wishes of their police authorities.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Mr Justice Mann, is considering a claim by Northumbria Police Authority that new Home Office guidelines are unlawful.

Rous's ashes

The ashes of Sir Stanley Rous, the international football administrator, have been scattered on a football pitch at Muford, near Lowestoft, Suffolk, the village where he was born.

Science report

Black snow 'worse than acid rain'

By John Newell

New research suggests that when acid rain settles as snow and later melts, the concentrated flood causes far more devastating effects than the steady trickle when it falls as rain.

This conclusion comes from studies in the Cairngorms in Scotland.

The finding has been examined in more detail in connection with another discovery, made a few years ago, demonstrating that the high acid content and discoloration often found in such snow frequently originated from eastern Europe. It was given the nickname "black snow".

Now it is clear from work at the Climate Research Unit at East Anglia University that when black snow melts the effects of acids from it can be multiplied many times.

Tiny particles of wet acid spout from Russian and eastern European chimneys rise up to a height of more than two kilometres and form a stable layer which is carried by winds all the way to Scotland or Wales. There, air currents rising over the mountains, especially the Cairngorms, bring down the polluting particles in snowflakes. They gather much more pollution than raindrops, because of their elaborate shapes.

Dr Trevor Davies, deputy director of the research unit, has been analysing what happens when drifts of black snow start to melt. His findings show that 80 per cent of the acids and other pollutants in the snow trickle out in the first 20 per cent of the snow which melts.

That effect is not entirely surprising since when water freezes, impurities of any kind tend to move to the outside of the ice crystals formed. So they might be expected to emerge first when the ice melts. But the strength of the effect was unexpected.

Dr Davies has found that the concentrations of acids in the water formed in the first hour or so after black snow begins to melt are up to 15 times higher than they are in the unmelted snow as a whole.

There is now an urgent need to look at the biological effects of brief exposure to very high concentrations of acids in melting snow. Although these effects may only last for an hour, for that period, life forms ranging from trees through grass and crops to insects and soil bacteria will be exposed to much higher concentrations of acids than had been suspected.

Research to date has only investigated the effects of such high concentrations on fish.

Sale room

Hard cash for rare soft toys

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

High prices were achieved yesterday for 1950s teddy bears and for 16 Kate Greenaway illustrations for *The April Baby's Book of Tunes* at £55,000 (estimate £40,000-£60,000).

A Steiff "Teddy-Baby" in golden mohair, dating from around 1954 and with a squeaker operated by squeezing the tummy, sold for £330 (estimate £60-£80) at Christie's, South Kensington.

A seasonal note was struck by a clockwork nodding reindeer pulling Father Christmas in a green sleigh which made £770 (estimate £200-£300). Sotheby's sale of children's books and related drawings had a curious pattern of up and down prices with a few lots going exceptionally high. A first edition of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* sold for £49,500 (estimate £8,000-£12,000) to Justin Schiller, the New York dealer in children's books.

The consistently high prices paid for miniature books was the other notable feature of the sale. *Tom Thumb's Play Book* of 1755, the only recorded edition of this alphabet book, made £8,800 (estimate £3,000-£4,000).

The activities of left-wing Labour councillors came under spirited attack during a debate opened by a Conservative MP yesterday in the House of Commons. Mr Kenneth Clegg (West Lancashire, C), who opened the debate, said that many councillors now saw their role as challenging that of central government in many areas, civic pride and community spirit had given way to groups of left-wing Labour councillors. Trotskyists, Militants and their sympathisers, who saw local authorities as mini-Soviets or power bases from which to attack other political parties and particularly central government.

The public had not realized that this change had taken place. They still voted in local government elections for the label they had supported throughout their lives.

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton, C), a former Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said that the failures and bloody-mindedness of local authorities had forced the Government to remove more and more powers from them. There was no sinister conspiracy. These were sensible decisions designed to protect local citizens, but they had contributed to the continuing decline of local government.

Six months of Labour control of Ealing Council had achieved as many new members for the Conservative Party as had years of knocking on doors. Ealing Council's activities encapsulated all that was wrong with local government today. Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L) said that there were dangers in local government if Labour did not recognize the danger in the party and dangers which, transferred to Westminster, would make Parliament far more a totalitarian regime than had ever been seen.

Labour councillors must heed the warning from their own front bench that local government could not be run on the basis that some day some godparent government would bail out their mistakes. Many Labour authorities did a good job. There were others in which people passionately, misleadingly and anti-democratically were corrupting local government every single day.

Perhaps some of these local authorities had been a little ham-fisted, but at least they were trying. They deserved a great deal more sympathy from MPs, whether straight or gay, than they were getting at present.

He was worried about the intolerance of democracy within the Conservative Party. "I am convinced that the Tories would not stop from inspiring a military coup in this country to thwart the socialist policies of a Labour government. When they

were actually highly intelligent and articulate. They derived more from anarchism than socialism. They were determined to destabilize society. They wished to undermine family values, destroy respect for the forces of law and order and create financial instability in the areas under their control. The Labour Party had to be careful of those people in its midst. Sooner or later, they would lead to its destruction. Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab) said that there had been an attempt by the Conservatives to

see the capitalist system under threat they would stop at nothing to remove a Labour government. Sir Geoffrey Finsberg (Hampstead and Highgate, C) said that those who acted as political advisers were politicians who poned on the taxpayer. They were giving advice to the local councils at the taxpayers' expense. In many cases they were councillors in other authorities. That was an evil which should not be tolerated by the Government.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North, Lab), a former Harrogate councillor, said that since 1979 there had been a continued process of curtailing the powers of local government, of centralizing power around the Secretary of State and of attacking authorities that attempted to do anything to meet the needs of their communities or to reduce the imbalance inherent in society.

Over the past four years, there had been a systematic process of media attacks on individual local authorities. Harrogate had been crawled over by the Murdoch empire, day after day scratching for dirt and salacious gossip, camping around the gardens of houses where Labour councillors lived and following them. There had been a series of untrue newspaper stories concerning actions that councils had supposedly taken.

The Government had supported the smear campaign.

Mr Walker who had confirmed that he was not in the Chair on Wednesday night when that supposed incident took place. "In *The Times*, the other half of the Wapping press, it was stated that the MPs who were in the lobby had succeeded in topping 10 minutes off the Alliance defence debate. That suggests that that division must have taken something like 22, 23 or 24 minutes instead of the usual 12 to 15 minutes."

He (Mr Skinner) had asked the Deputy Secretary of State to confirm in writing that he had never seen him (Mr Skinner) in the voting lobby and that according to the *Official Report*, the vote was taken at 7.32pm. The next debate began at 7.47pm, despite a point of order having been raised in the chamber before the debate.

"I have now received a reply in which he says: 'I can confirm each of the points in your letter.'"

PARLIAMENT

December 5 1986

MPs trade accusations over councils

The activities of left-wing Labour councillors came under spirited attack during a debate opened by a Conservative MP yesterday in the House of Commons.

Mr Kenneth Clegg (West Lancashire, C), who opened the debate, said that many councillors now saw their role as challenging that of central government in many areas, civic pride and community spirit had given way to groups of left-wing Labour councillors. Trotskyists, Militants and their sympathisers, who saw local authorities as mini-Soviets or power bases from which to attack other political parties and particularly central government.

The public had not realized that this change had taken place. They still voted in local government elections for the label they had supported throughout their lives.

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton, C), a former Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said that the failures and bloody-mindedness of local authorities had forced the Government to remove more and more powers from them. There was no sinister conspiracy. These were sensible decisions designed to protect local citizens, but they had contributed to the continuing decline of local government.

Six months of Labour control of Ealing Council had achieved as many new members for the Conservative Party as had years of knocking on doors. Ealing Council's activities encapsulated all that was wrong with local government today.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L) said that there were dangers in local government if Labour did not recognize the danger in the party and dangers which, transferred to Westminster, would make Parliament far more a totalitarian regime than had ever been seen.

Labour councillors must heed the warning from their own front bench that local government could not be run on the basis that some day some godparent government would bail out their mistakes. Many Labour authorities did a good job. There were others in which people passionately, misleadingly and anti-democratically were corrupting local government every single day.

Perhaps some of these local authorities had been a little ham-fisted, but at least they were trying. They deserved a great deal more sympathy from MPs, whether straight or gay, than they were getting at present.

He was worried about the intolerance of democracy within the Conservative Party. "I am convinced that the Tories would not stop from inspiring a military coup in this country to thwart the socialist policies of a Labour government. When they

in schools, it is also wrong for homosexuals to seek the leadership of this country and prominent places within this House?"

Across the country the Conservative Party had lost the support of the electorate in council election after council election. It had never been weaker in Britain's towns and county halls. The modern Conservative Party was unable to cope with defeat and so it sought scapegoats on which to vent its wrath.

Dr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Local Government, said that there were a number of people within the Labour Party who were doing things which would damage first that party and then the rest of the country.

Where such people had taken over they spent as if there was no tomorrow, politicized council officials and ran their own foreign policy in mini-Soviets.

On homosexuality, he wanted no persecution of anyone, but most people in this country had a normality, the family. To have anything else was anti-life and the end of life.

New Society had referred to the Salem witch trial of Miss Maureen McGoldrick. It had been done against the wishes of Mr Kinnock and other people and was like an eastern European or Russian show trial. What that lady had gone through was something he would not wish on his worst enemy.

"I guess that there was a delay of some minutes. It certainly was not as long as 10 minutes. There was the unusual occurrence of the Deputy Speaker's request. The story was partially accurate and partially in-

Since you did not see me either, you may care to know that I did not draw my sword."

Mr Simon Hughes (Bermondsey, L) said he had no knowledge of where the information had come from. He had asked Mr James Wallace. They were the two tellers.

To his recollection, there was discussion between the clerk at the table and the Deputy Speaker about the delay in the lobbies. An order was made by the Deputy Speaker that the Sergeant-at-Arms cause inquiries to be made as to what was causing that delay. After that, a group of MPs came out quickly.

"I have now received a reply in which he says: 'I can confirm each of the points in your letter.'"

THE PRESS

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WORLD SUMMARY

Six die in Delhi temple battles

Delhi - At least six people, three paramilitary troops and three Sikh civilians, were killed yesterday as paramilitary forces opened fire to disperse Sikhs and Hindus at the Bangla Sahib temple, where the Sikhs were attempting to hold a religious procession (Our Correspondent writes).

The situation was tense because Hindus did not want the procession, to commemorate the memory of Teg Bahadur, the Sikhs' sixth guru, who sacrificed his life to save the Hindus from a Muslim king in 1675, to go ahead.

A short while later a truck driven by a Sikh rammed into a group of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) troops outside the temple, killing three. Witnesses said the dead officers' comrades gave the driver a severe beating.

At least 16 people were injured, five of them policemen, including some hurt in a stone-throwing melee.

Twenty-five people were reported injured in another clash with police at the historic Sisganj temple in Old Delhi.

Journalist killed: Terrorists in Punjab killed a Sikh journalist near Gurdaspur yesterday, supposedly because some of his dispatches were not to the terrorists' liking.

Guerrillas shoot 13

Delhi (Reuters) - Tribal guerrillas stormed out of the jungle with rifles and sub-machine guns blazing, killed 13 Bengali settlers and set their village in Tripura state on fire on Thursday night, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

The massacre in Akrabari, in the west of the strategic state, was the worst since August 29, when Tripura National Volunteer guerrillas killed 14 people in northern Tripura and fled across the border into Bangladesh.

Three ministers of the Marxist state government, including the deputy chief minister, rushed to Akrabari yesterday, and police reinforcements scoured the jungle for the attackers. PTI said the attack brought to 81 the death toll in a TNV offensive.



Death threats

Stockholm - Death threats have been made against Mr Sten Andersson, Foreign Minister of Sweden, left, a close friend of Mr Olof Palme, the assassinated Prime Minister, it was revealed yesterday (Christopher Mosey writes).

Security around Mr Andersson has been stepped up after the threats made in a letter to *Ny Dag*, the Communist newspaper.

Extradition refusal

Jerusalem - Israel has turned down a request by France for the extradition of Mr William Nakash, aged 25, who was convicted by a French court for the murder of an Arab in Besancon in 1983 (Ian Murray writes).

The decision has outraged senior lawyers and politicians here and last night two court writs were filed against him in an attempt to keep him in prison and to force the Justice Minister, Mr Avraham Shinar, to change his mind.

Mr Nakash arrived in Israel with a forged French passport in 1983, when he was being hunted for the murder. Granted Israeli citizenship as a Jew, he was tracked down by French police and was jailed for life in absentia.

Britons in air crash

Cairo - Two Britons have survived a plane crash in southern Egypt and been rescued by helicopter, according to the British Embassy (Reuters reports).

Officials at Luxor airport, 400 miles south of Cairo, said that the private Cessna 340 of Mr Nick Morris, aged 32, and Miss Jane Cunningham, 31, crash-landed after running out of fuel 10 miles south-east of the airport. A search helicopter found them 11 hours later.

The Britons were flying from Addis Ababa to Luxor. Both are only slightly injured.

Tourists in danger

Bangkok - Proposed visits by foreign tourists to the former royal temples at Angkor in north-west Cambodia have been cancelled after warnings by the Khmer Rouge that the visitors would not be safe (Neil Kelly writes).

Except for one small group two years ago, foreign tourists have not been able to visit Angkor Wat for more than a decade.

Travel agents in Bangkok said warnings from anti-Vietnamese guerrillas had frightened off clients who were to pay \$795 each for the trip.

Propaganda coup for Kremlin

Concession on Salt enhances Gorbachov's peace image

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet Union announced last night that it will continue to observe its strategic arms limitation treaties with the US, despite the Reagan Administration's recent decision to exceed the ceiling set by the unratified 1979 Salt 2 agreement.

The Kremlin's conciliatory move was seen in Western circles as a skillful attempt to secure the maximum international propaganda advantage from Washington's action last month at a time when the White House is in deep internal political difficulty.

There was immediate diplomatic speculation that the latest gesture towards boosting the Soviet Union's image as the most peace-conscious of the superpowers by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, might be followed by a further extension of its soon-to-expire moratorium on nuclear testing, despite repeated warnings here to the contrary.

"There is no doubt that once again the Soviet side have played their cards more effectively," one senior Western diplomat said. "What the Reagan Administration did has played right into their hands and given them another propaganda triumph."

A lengthy statement issued by Tass, the official Soviet news agency, claimed that, as a result of the US putting into service its 131st heavy bomber armed with cruise missiles without dismantling an equivalent nuclear weapon delivery vehicle, Moscow had grounds to regard itself free of the limits imposed by Salt 2 and the earlier Salt 1 treaties.

"At the same time, the Soviet side believes that there is still an opportunity for stopping the dangerous course of events that is being provoked by the irresponsible actions of the present American Administration," the statement added.

In a pointed reference to the timing of the US Salt 2 breach, so soon after the collapse of the Reykjavik summit, the Soviet Government stated: "It is significant that the United States decided to deal a blow to the structure of fundamental accords in the field of strategic arms limitation precisely at a time when a prospect for an improvement in the international situation had appeared at last."

The United Nations General Assembly has censured Iran and Chile over human rights violations. It also accused Soviet forces and the Afghanistan Government of atrocities against civilians.

The resolution on Afghanistan was adopted 89-24 with 36 abstentions. It expressed concern over "the great severity" with which the occupying forces acted against their real or suspected opponents and the excessive force employed, which included indiscriminate bombing and military action against villages.

Ninety-four countries voted in favour of the draft censuring Chile. It cited violations

UN censures Chile and Iran over human rights

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

which include the ineffective-ness of the Government in preventing ill-treatment of individuals by the military, police and security forces.

The assembly voted 61 to 32, with 42 abstentions, against Iran and expressed concern over the summary and arbitrary executions taking place in Iran.

Mr Moratorium call: In a direct challenge to the signatories of the Antarctic Treaty, the General Assembly has called for a moratorium on negotiations to establish a minerals regime governing the continent's resources until all countries are allowed to participate equally in the deliberations.

Vietnam veteran kills 27 in Bogota



Medics removing a body, left, from the scene of slaughter at the Pozzetto restaurant in Bogota where Delgado ran amok.

Bogota - Hospitals yesterday appealed for blood donations to save survivors of a massacre carried out by a deranged Vietnam war veteran who killed 27 people, including his mother, when he ran wild on Thursday (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

Even in a country as notoriously violent as Colombia, the mayhem wrought by Campo Elias Delgado, who served with United States forces in Vietnam, sent shock waves through the nation. The "Rambo-style bloodbath", as the press has dubbed it, ended when Delgado shot himself dead as police closed in on a pizza restaurant in the central Chapinero district where most of his victims died.

The slaughter was quickly likened to the McDonald's restaurant murders in

which 20 people were killed by a crazed gunman in the US two years ago. A copycat element could not be dismissed given that Delgado, aged 52, lived for several years in the US and served with its Army, either as a combat soldier or medic in Vietnam. Indeed, at the height of the blood-fetted, Delgado was heard to boast that he was a Vietnam veteran.

Among the dead was the daughter-in-law of former President Betancur, whose four-year term ended in August. Eleven people were wounded, several critically.

Delgado reportedly left the US 15 years ago and returned to Colombia to live with his mother in a Bogota apartment. The relationship was tense and often violent, said neighbours who claimed that he often beat his mother.

She was his first victim, shot through the head at point-blank range. He wrapped her body in newspaper and set it ablaze before going to nearby apartments on the pretext of needing a phone to call the fire brigade where he killed six neighbours.

After other families barricaded themselves into their flats, he left the building and walked 10 blocks to the pizza restaurant where he was a regular customer. He sat at the bar and drank eight vodkas with orange juice and then ordered wine and a plate of spaghetti.

Delgado then went to a toilet with a briefcase and returned brandishing a revolver and hunting knife. Of the 35 people, customers and staff, in the restaurant he shot and killed 20. Several victims begged for their lives.

Freed Zapu chief remains defiant

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr Dumiso Dabengwa gives not the slightest hint that he has spent the last five years in the crushing environment of a jail.

Rather, he has emerged with a riveting presence that can only remind Zimbabwe's political chiefs that he cannot be ignored if he does not wish to be.

It is, perhaps, the same presence that persuaded the white judge who acquitted him of charges of treason in 1983 to say that Mr Dabengwa was "the most impressive witness the court has seen for a long time".

Goated, tall and tending to portliness - understandable after so long with limited exercise on a stogy diet - the articulate former guerrilla strategist exudes calm, alertness and, above all, defiance.

He held a press conference, five hours after his release, on the unmet laws of the home of Mr Joshua Nkomo, his mentor and the leader of the opposition party, Zapu. He made it plain from the start that he was angry about being "unfairly" detained, and that he would brook no conditions to his release. He also took a swipe at the Government.

Announcing the release of Mr Dabengwa and four others, Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Home Affairs, said he hoped they would all "forever refrain from committing acts of espionage, sabotage, banditry and destabilization."

"We never deserved to be in detention at all," Mr Dabengwa said. "We have never participated in any banditry, nor in destabilization, let alone spying for South Africa." The minister's statement was "unfortunate and irrelevant", he said.

He said his release had been recommended by the Detainees' Review Tribunal as long ago as July this year, and he clearly evinced his impatience as he enumerated the delays that held up his freedom.

He also firmly reserved his attitude to the year-old talks aimed at uniting Zapu and the ruling Zanu (PF) party. He admitted he had his own position, but would not publish this until he had been fully briefed by his party.

He was angry at his wrongful incarceration, but not unforgiving when asked if he would be prepared to work with the Government, specifically with Mr Nkala.

Soviet students to get more state aid

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A new system of grants to students at the Soviet Union's 894 universities, colleges and institutes is to be announced in the next few weeks as part of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's reform of the antiquated higher education system.

Details of the grants, which are expected to double the monthly grant to the brightest students from 50 to 100 rubles (£100), were revealed this week by Professor Boris Tamm, the Rector of Tallinn Technical University in Estonia.

Under the present system the top students have received 30 rubles a month, the next grade 40 rubles, and the three lowest grades nothing.

Professor Tamm did not disguise his frustration with red tape which hampered education during the pre-Gorbachov era. "I would think that, since the new minister took over, individual universities in all parts of the Soviet Union have received 20 per cent more freedom to make their own decisions."

The professor, who was responsible for the development of the "Little John", one of only a handful of personal computers now being manufactured in the Soviet Union, said further reforms would be welcomed.

"Fortunately the new minister was the head of a scientific institute in Moscow for many years, so he knows exactly the problems we face as a result of red tape."

He said the changes, which had been the subject of much internal debate, will be published by Mr Gennady Yagodin, the Minister of Higher Education.

"The main purpose of the revised scale of grants is to provide proper incentives for students to study harder, and also to provide them with more free time to pursue their studies by making it less vital for them to take a job on the side in order to support themselves," Professor Tamm said.

Although higher education is free, the low level of state cash to all but a tiny elite of students forces large numbers of less gifted students to take on menial jobs.

Republicans press President to speed up arms inquiry

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan yesterday met the congressional Republican leadership to discuss what further steps Congress would take in investigating the Iran affair.

Senator Robert Dole, the Senate Republican leader, wants him to call a special session of Congress to enable it to authorize the investigations and appropriate money for them now. The Democrats, however, oppose this and want to wait until next month when Congress reconvenes with a Democratic majority.

The Republicans say a special session will speed up the investigations, which are debilitating the US Government. But Senator David Durenberger, the Republican chairman of the Senate intelligence committee investigation, said Mr Reagan could himself speed things up. "If he chose to get all of the facts and make them public, it would hasten the process."

In a move designed to assuage the strong criticism of the Iran arms sales within the Republican Party, Mr Reagan indirectly admitted for the first time yesterday that mistakes were made in the way arms were sold to Tehran and in the diversion of funds to Nicaragua.

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said on television that the President agreed that "there were some mistakes in the diversion of funds, in some of the implementing processes involved in the Iranian issue". Vice-President George Bush has already said that "clearly mistakes were made," and Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, has gone further and said that Mr Reagan had received "very bad advice" on the issue.

But Mr Robert McFarlane, the former National Security Adviser who was clearly the target of Mr Weinberger's criticism, laid the blame squarely on the President. He told the Senate intelligence committee, according to *The New York Times*, that Mr Reagan gave advance approval to Israel's sale of arms to Iran, despite Administration assertions to the contrary.

Contras to 'educate' Europeans

By Philip Jacobson

The Nicaraguan rebels begin a two-day conference in London this morning aimed at "educating" western Europe about their struggle against the Sandinista regime.

Dr Arturo Cruz, the main speaker at the conference, was once a member of the Sandinista Government and later Nicaragua's Ambassador in the US. After defecting because of "betrayal of our revolution", he joined the United Nations Organisation (UNO), an umbrella organization for the Contra movement.

He concedes that the turmoil over the Reagan Administration's dealings with Iran has inflicted serious political damage on the Contras, raising serious questions about the readiness of the new Democratic majorities in the US to continue US military support.

"This Iran business could not have been more badly timed for us," Dr Cruz said yesterday. "We were just beginning to feel the benefit of improvements in our organization which would certainly have improved our standing in the US and elsewhere."

One persistent criticism of the UNO has been that moderate civilian leaders were kept in the dark by the military wing about what was happening to the millions of dollars intended for furthering the war effort.

"It's possible some of the Iran arms money found its way from that famous Swiss bank account into our military operations," says Dr Cruz.

"Obviously something like this puts us on the defensive but, provided there is full public disclosure of what really happened in the Iran scandal, we are optimistic about coming out in good shape when the dust settles."

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"Obviously something like this puts us on the defensive but, provided there is full public disclosure of what really happened in the Iran scandal, we are optimistic about coming out in good shape when the dust settles."

Reagan snared by Watergate factor

Bob Woodward is back on the front page of *The Washington Post* with explosive revelations. President Reagan, grim-faced, is promising that the American people will get the facts. A sceptical Congress is holding a special inquiry, with senators jostling to get in front of the television cameras and vent their righteous indignation.

Nervous White House aides are quarrelling with each other, while anxiously wondering what else there is to come out. Opinion polls are plunging, the rhetoric is rising, the affair is becoming obsessive. It seems like Watergate all over again.

It is precisely this feeling that has set the Iran crisis on a course that seems unstoppable. The entire country is reacting with set responses. The press is salivating at all the Pulitzer prizes to be won for ferreting out skulduggery. *The Washington Post* has come into its own again, far ahead of its rivals and relishing its championing of democracy and the Constitution against wrongdoing on high.

And Congress, remembering the glory that finally rewarded Sam Ervin and his dogged persistence, has turned anger and embarrassment into powerful tools of self-promotion.

Republicans have tried to outdo the Democrats in their moral hyperbole. Virtually every House and Senate committee wanted to be in on the act with its own hearings, until the proliferation became absurd. Even now, the House of Representatives has refused to leave it all to the Senate, and will set up a parallel investigation.

All other politics have vanished from the media. Political gossip feeds on every latest disclosure. Every detail now seems significant: who knew

the afternoon off, and on Fridays he leaves at 3 pm for Camp David. Otherwise, he stays in the office until about 5 pm. He reads little, with memos on policy options kept to one or two pages, and foreign policy papers kept to five. He rarely calls his aides for advice.

"I've known for five years that the President was incompetent. Why has it taken the media so long to recognize this?" a caller asked on America's best-watched discussion programme yesterday.

"If Ronald Reagan does not have his finger on the pulse of this nation, he's incompetent and should resign another in the audience said. "If he has done something illegal, he should be impeached."

Harsh words that would not have come only a month ago. America has a tendency to swing to extremes. The collective memory of Watergate has pushed the pendulum farther and faster than anyone expected. It is not Watergate, as so many have pointed out.

Mr Reagan has taken those immediate steps to stem the crisis that had to be forced through the courts and in Congress on Mr Nixon. But the Watergate syndrome has taken over. Too many politicians and journalists are counting on glory in playing out their assumed roles to allow a calmer assessment. It will, as everyone admits with a sigh, go on and on.

Everyone is pointing fingers at everyone else. Those dismissed or out of office have begun to blame their former superiors. The spokesmen have become meekly reticent, the insiders sparing with their background information. Everyone is waiting for the lead from the President.

As with President Nixon, the crisis has become a personal one for Mr Reagan.

And the perception of vulnerability has suddenly unleashed long pent-up criticisms, even by those who joined in the earlier general chorus of admiration for Mr Reagan's handling of his job. The criticism is not that he is devious but that he is idle.

Time magazine outlined in devastating detail his light daily workload. The President, it said, arrives at his office at 9 am - almost two hours after most US chief executives - has a 30-minute daily briefing and asks few questions apart from "what do I have to say?"

His morning is usually spent on promotional events - meeting an athletic team or a delegation from the American Dairy Association. His lunches are spent once a week with the Vice-President or Secretary of State, and in the afternoon he receives visiting heads of state or State Department officials with a rundown of "talking points" on cue cards.

On Wednesdays he takes

Iranian Jews seek American refuge

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

The number of Iranian Jews applying for asylum in the United States has risen sharply in the last eight months, a spokesman for the American consulate in Vienna said yesterday.

There are now about 1,000 Iranians waiting in Vienna to be granted US refugee status, compared with only 300 a few months ago. Of 400 eight months ago. Of these, 80 per cent are Jews.

Many of them reach Vienna from Turkey. According to the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, the numbers claiming

asylum in Austria has also risen from just over 100 in 1982 to 338 in the first 10 months of this year.

The Austrian authorities were, however, unable to comment on the religious persuasion of these refugees.

"The only refugees whose religion we register are Jews from the Soviet Union," a ministry spokesman said.

The Iranian Jews are frequently supported by the Hebrew Immigration Aid Service in Vienna. Members of the organization are reluctant to comment on the refugees, for fear that reprisals will be taken against others trying to leave Iran.

"The routes out of Iran have opened up considerably in the last few months, but they could easily be closed again," one official dealing with the refugees observed.

Of the 1,000 Iranians waiting to reach the US, most are expected to have their applications treated favourably. "Our experience has been that these people meet the requirements of US refugee status," an American diplomat said here. "They have legitimate fear of persecution."

Iran says it paid \$30m in US-approved deal

Tehran (Reuters) - The Iranian Parliamentary Speaker, Mr Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, has said that Tehran paid \$30 million (£21 million) for a shipment of American weapons parts, knowing that Washington had approved the delivery.

He said after a Supreme Defence Council meeting on Thursday night that Iran had bought US arms from dealers

for six years "but this time we knew that the US had agreed to that one shipment".

"It became known recently that it came from American warehouses. We did not know this part," Mr Rafsanjani told Tehran Radio.

Mr Rafsanjani, who first referred to the deal in a speech a month ago, touching off the controversy, said: "It was really not imaginable for us that the American ruling machinery could be so flimsy. It appears that the organization of the American rulers has collapsed."

He repeated denials that weapons came from or through Israel, but left open the possibility that dealers might have lied to Iranian authorities on the itineraries of the aircraft which delivered arms. "Now that they claim a plane has come from Israel, it might be that they (dealers) lied to us then; that is, a plane was coming from Tel Aviv but they did not tell us," he said.

"But we think this is unlikely because they were aware of the possibility that we might find out and cause problems, because we definitely reject shipments by aircraft or vessels which come from Israel."

Sarney in television appeal

President tries to quell unrest over Brazil's austerity policy

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

Buffeted by a wave of anti-government sentiment and a slump in popularity ratings, President Sarney of Brazil went on national television last night to defend a series of stringent austerity measures and to rally the country behind his efforts to win more favourable terms for payment of the nation's \$103 billion (£72 billion) debt to foreign creditors.

His voice at times heavy with emotion, Senator Sarney called upon his audience of millions to shake off "defeatism".

"We left behind recession, a great scarecrow that meant lack of jobs, closed-down factories, misery, hunger," he said. "We're in the best period of our history, a period of growth, a moment of great transformations."

Alternating his customary avuncular smile with a brooding frown, Senator Sarney, in a black suit and tie, spoke for 34 minutes and invoked Mark Twain, John Kenneth Galbraith, the liberal economist, and even John the Baptist during the broadcast.

"For one year I preached alone in the desert," he said, referring to his contentious first year in office, when he tried to promote a "social pact" for dialogue between labour and management.

"I was forced to make reforms on my own," he said, in a reference to the February inflation-fighting plan, the Cruzado Plan.

In a tone that wavered between triumphant and defensive, Senator Sarney declared to the nation that he was there to "assume responsibility" for Cruzado II, the recent battery of harsh economic reforms which provoked a public outcry.

His televised message, which bore no news, has been

viewed widely here as a belated attempt to buff a tarnished public image.

Two executives from Brazil's leading television network, TV Globo, directed the President as he rehearsed the speech.

Senator Sarney, aged 56, an experienced politician and also a poet, has skillfully used television to garner public sympathy for past programmes, such as February's Cruzado Plan.

However, it was not the President but his ministers of economy who, in a stumbling and disjointed presentation, announced in November the latest array of "adjustments", such as stiff rises in public utility rates and sales taxes on cars, petrol, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages.

Senator Sarney, after almost two weeks of silence, justified the reforms as the only means to "protect the gains of the Cruzado Plan", threatened by a boom in consumer spending that pushed the economy to the limits of production and spawned a spreading black market.

He said: "The measures avert greater difficulties. They strengthen our economy (as we prepare for) renegotiation of the foreign debt."

Yet, Senator Sarney was reportedly stung by the reaction to Cruzado II, which boiled over into a night-time rampage of looting and burnings of government vehicles in Brasília a week ago.

Senator Sarney also criticized "enemies" of the Cruzado Plan, referring to the labour unions which have issued a call for a general strike on December 12.

Appealing again for a "social pact" between unions and management, he said: "It is time to unite our forces, not to divide them."



UN war on killer disease

Gurkhas recruited to take part in medical crusade

From Paul Valley, Kathmandu

It was like a parody of the 15 years they had spent in the British Army. Back in their mountain homeland a squad of 80 recently discharged Gurkhas were again doing drill, only now the hard parade grounds of Hong Kong had been replaced by the soft grasses of Dharan in the foothills of the Himalayas.

Their uniforms and square-bashing hats had altered, too. They wore shorts and T-shirts, carried United Nations folders in their left hands and marched to the shouted rhythm of "nan-chin-pai" which in Nepali means "salt-sugar-water".

The ex-servicemen are the latest recruits in a war against diarrhoea being waged by Unicef, the UN relief agency, in one of the poorest countries in the world, where one in five children die before their fifth birthday and where dehydration

through diarrhoeal diseases is the leading killer.

"The Gurkhas are perfect messengers," said Mr George McBean, the Unicef field officer who is responsible for training the former British soldiers in their new role and who spent last week in Dharan training the latest contingent.

"When they are discharged they return to their homes in remote areas as well-respected men. They are the potential social leaders, well-equipped to combat ignorance and counter some of the harmful folk remedies which kill as many as 45,000 children a year."

At the end of 15 years' service in the British Army, members of the Gurkha Regiment are given a modest pension and booked into a government retraining scheme run in the east of Nepal. There they are prepared for their

return to the hard life of a farmer in the Himalayan highlands.

They are taught the rudiments of house building and how to run the farms which most have acquired through their army pay during their military careers. Recently a new component has been added to the course — several days of health training by Unicef.

"Many of their farms are in the really remote regions where it is difficult for anyone else to reach on a regular basis. There are still many places in the hills which can only be reached by a journey on foot of as much as two weeks. There are no roads and most homes do not have a radio," said Mr McBean, who was about to begin work on the course for his fourth batch of Gurkhas.

"It has been a great success."

Gurkhas, having selected someone to be the "baby", taking part in a game that teaches ways of heading diarrhoea; and, below, an ex-soldier learns to be a child health consultant.



Already we have feedback from the first groups with remote villages contacting us for further information on many health matters. It also means we are building up a network of reliable people in each area who can assist when we run things like immunization campaigns."

The involvement of the Gurkhas is only one element in a national campaign which hopes to make a significant

impact on infant mortality in a country where only 11 per cent of the population has access to clean water.

The education of highland peasants in the use of *nan-chin-pai*, the homemade variety of commercially produced Oral Rehydration Salts which vastly increase rates of recovery by using glucose to bind the essential salts lost in diarrhoea, could halve the number of child deaths by 1990.

Man freed after 16 years in detention

Karachi — A man, aged 75, who had been under detention for the past 16 years without being charged or coming before a court, was released yesterday on the orders of the Sindh High Court (Zahid Hussain writes).

According to the petition filed by the Prisoners' Aid Society, the detainee, Mr Mukhtar, was arrested in 1970 by the Karachi police. The court has asked the Advocate General to ascertain the facts about the detention.

Chalker in Uganda

Kampala (AFP) — Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for the Foreign Office, arrived in Uganda yesterday for a two-day visit, her second to the country this year.

Mrs Chalker is expected to hold talks with President Museveni and other officials on future British assistance to Uganda.

Prisoner wins a bonus

Peking (Reuters) — China's economic reforms have finally reached the plastic shoe factory at the Peking Shoe One Prison.

When a prisoner designed a successful new model of shoe, he was given five days off work and a 100 yuan (£19) bonus.

Nazi inquiry

Canberra (Reuters) — A Government commission said that 70 Nazi war criminals might be living in Australia and a special unit should be set up to investigate and perhaps prosecute them. The commission has given the Government a secret list of the alleged criminals.

Tap thefts

Moscow (Reuters) — Theft of state property is so widespread in the Soviet Union that employees of the airline Aeroflot are stealing taps from washrooms at Moscow's main international airport, the official weekly *Nedelny* said.

Tough laws

Bonn (Reuters) — The West German Parliament has passed new laws making it illegal to publish or distribute information helpful to terrorists and broadening the legal definition of terrorist acts to include sabotage of state power and transport facilities.

Bomb defused

Almeria (Reuters) — Police said they defused a powerful bomb planted outside the offices of the local newspaper *Cronica* in the southern city of Almeria. There was no immediate explanation for the attack against the newspaper.

To meet Pope

Vatican City (AP) — The Pope will meet General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, when he visits Italy next month at the invitation of the Prime Minister, Signor Bettino Craxi.

Cave deaths

Huelva (Reuters) — Three 10-year-old children were found dead in a cave near this southern Spanish city after playing truant from a school trip to a film festival. They appeared to have been suffocated by smoke from a fire they lit.

Epidemic aid

Lagos (Reuters) — Five American experts are due to arrive in Nigeria shortly to help doctors fight a yellow fever epidemic which has killed at least 300 villagers.

Reform urged

Moscow (Reuters) — Soviet actors, playwrights and theatre directors have been told to break away from control by cultural bureaucrats and help Mr Mikhail Gorbachev in reforming society.

Death of Hong Kong governor

Whitehall loses its handover expert

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, and Robert Grievess in Peking

The sudden death of Sir Edward Youde, Governor of Hong Kong, was seen as a great blow in Whitehall yesterday, depriving the Foreign Office of one of its foremost experts on the colony's transition to Chinese rule.

Sir Edward was at the forefront of efforts to dovetail British and Chinese proposals on Hong Kong's constitutional future. More than any other official he understood the policy known as "convergence". Whitehall's strategy for ensuring that progress towards representative government up to 1997 remains in step with Chinese plans after the British lease expires.

He had just conveyed the latest Whitehall suggestions to Mr Zhou Nan, China's Deputy Foreign Minister, when he died in Peking.

There has been growing concern that Sir Edward, aged 62, had been pushing himself too hard. Despite a heart-bypass operation before he took up his appointment in 1982, he maintained a hectic pace of shuttle diplomacy.

His death followed a schedule which would have punished much younger men. Last week he flew into London on Tuesday, held two meetings with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and two with junior ministers, and left again on Thursday.

Arriving back in Hong Kong on Friday, he had only a brief rest before beginning talks with senior Chinese of-

Spain and US feud over bases

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Senior Narcis Serra, the Spanish Defence Minister, has admitted for the first time that negotiations with the United States for a reduction of its military bases and troop strengths in this country, begun last July, are going badly.

Government sources indicated yesterday that the latest round, held in Madrid at the beginning of the week, found the two sides' positions more opposed than ever.

Senior Serra, when he met Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, in Brussels after the Madrid round, indicated that Spain's position would remain "very firm".

The Spanish Parliament on Thursday approved a government Bill permitting the reinstatement of nine former junior army officers who had formed a Union of Military Democrats during the last years of the Franco era.



Señor Serra: admits talks in Madrid are going badly.

Israelis kill Palestinian boy in West Bank refugee camp

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Israeli soldiers shot and killed a 14-year-old boy in the Palestinian refugee camp of Balata in the occupied West Bank yesterday. He was in a group of youngsters throwing stones at the soldiers and shouting protests at the shooting of two Palestinian students at Bir Zeit University the day before.

The incident has further heightened recent tensions in the West Bank. As a precaution, the authorities are insisting that the funerals of those killed must take place after nightfall to prevent them turning into potentially dangerous political demonstrations.

According to a military spokesman, the army patrol at the camp followed the correct procedure for making an arrest after stones were thrown at it: the boys were ordered to stop but they ran away. There was a further shouting warning before shots were fired in the air and then aimed at their legs as they continued to run.

The spokesman said one boy "disappeared" and it was only half-an-hour later that

the local hospital telephoned to say that he had been brought in dead of gunshot wounds.

There is a standard procedure to be followed by any soldier who means to shoot to kill during West Bank demonstrations. Only an officer can give the order and then only if the target can be identified and if the men are in imminent danger. Asked how the patrol could have been in imminent danger if the boys were running away, the spokesman said the soldiers were not shooting to kill so the procedure did not apply.

A routine inquiry is to be held into this shooting, like all others involving the use of weapons in the occupied territories. There are likely to be three separate inquiries into what happened at Bir Zeit University on Thursday, when the two students died and 15 others were injured by gunshot or plastic bullets.

According to Major-General Ehud Barak, the army commander on the West Bank, fewer than five officers

were responsible for all the shooting at the university. He said they had "acted with the utmost restraint and did not shoot unless there was real danger... while making sure to restrain their soldiers from opening fire, they also came under a hail of bottles and stones".

The university was closed yesterday and the nearby town of Ramallah was quiet. Most shops were closed but this is usual in this largely Muslim community on the Friday holy day.

The uneasy truce comes after a week of mounting tension in the West Bank. It began with demonstrations commemorating Palestine Partition Day, marking the anniversary of the 1947 United Nations vote to establish an independent Jewish state.

● AMMAN: Jordan yesterday condemned the "tyrannical and harsh" Israeli action in which the two Palestinian students were killed at Bir Zeit University (Reuters reports).

Cavaco Silva wins budget debate

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

Portugal's Parliament has approved the 1987 budget presented by the minority Government of Senhor Cavaco Silva, the Prime Minister.

The budget was passed yesterday morning after a continuous session of 21 hours during which the Prime Minister accused the Opposition party of introducing un-

acceptable changes in the budget and of infringing on areas pertaining exclusively to his ministers.

He challenged the Communist Party to present a motion of censure against his Government in parliament "rather than deface Lisbon's walls with slogans".

The main point of contention during the last day of debate concerned a clause to provide large sums of money

to raise the salaries of university professors.

Though some of his own party backed the proposal, Senhor Silva vehemently opposed it saying that university professors would then make 22 per cent more than a government minister and 10 per cent more than the Prime Minister.

The final vote on the Budget was 98 in favour, 75 against and 37 abstentions.

Witch doctors summoned to help exorcise Aids

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Leaders of South Africa's witch doctor fraternity joined forces with conventional medicine here yesterday to contain the spread of the killer disease Aids, which so far has not been found in any black South African.

About 100 *sangomas* and *inyangas*, as witch doctors are known, attended a briefing on Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) at the Medical Research, which is co-ordinating a campaign to educate the public about the ailment.

Witch-doctoring has become a well-organized profession, and many of the *sangomas*, men and women, wore sober Western dress, while others sported more gaudy traditional garb, from leopard skin headresses to coloured beads and feathers.

Last month various witch-doctor associations, representing some 50,000 *sangomas*,

came together to form the South African Traditional Healers' Council, whose president is Mr Lyndon Maitla, a herbalist from Soweto.

"We are trying to get official recognition for our organization, and to get herbalism and traditional healing established as a recognized university degree course," Mr Maitla, who looks more like a stockbroker than a witch doctor, said yesterday.

"Aids is a new disease for us," Mr Sam Maitla, a herbalist from the Pretoria area, admitted as he arrived for the meeting. "I don't think it can be passed on by sex. It must come from mosquitoes, like malaria."

Later, after the briefing by Dr Ruben Sher, a member of a group of medical experts advising the Government on Aids, Mr Maitla had revised his opinion. He now accepted that the disease was sexually transmitted.

A woman *sangoma*, Miss Thelma Sivela, from the

Alexandra township on Johannesburg's north-east outskirts, said: "The doctor showed us from slides how to recognize the symptoms of Aids and that you do not need to throw bones to do this."

Throwing bones — in fact, usually small shells — and observing the pattern they make when they fall is the main method used by witch doctors to divine the cause of trouble or illness and to forestall the future.

"I think we can educate people by telling them not to be prejudiced and to use condoms," said Miss Sivela, who was smartly dressed in Western style, except for a leopard skin ring on her hand.

Miss Sivela said she used to be a school teacher. Then one day she fell sick. Her doctor told her she had high blood pressure, but she also consulted a witch doctor who confirmed her own feeling that her ancestors were telling her to become a *sangoma*.

She took the witch doctor's

advice, and immediately the symptoms of her illness — headaches and sickness — disappeared, she said. She was then enrolled as a *sangoma*, an apprentice witch doctor.

Dr Sher said that many of the *sangomas* who attended yesterday's meeting probably still believed that witchcraft was the cause of Aids. But even if only 10 per cent had changed their views the meeting would have been of value.

"We want them to be able to recognize the symptoms of people suffering from the disease, so they can refer them to a hospital. More importantly, we want them to educate blacks on the need to avoid promiscuity," he said.

This could be an uphill battle. The purpose of much *san* — traditional medicine connected from roots, herbs and even parts of animal and human bodies — is to increase sexual activity. Magazines aimed at black readers abound in advertisements for exotic aphrodisiacs.

It is estimated that there could be more than a million and a half with doctors in South Africa, roughly one for every 30 people in the country.

They still have great authority in rural areas, and even sophisticated urban blacks are not immune to their influence.

"We estimate that 80 per cent of blacks who fall ill will consult a *sangoma* before a conventional doctor," Dr Sher said. "So we believe they must be regarded as health care workers."

All the 36 Aids cases so far diagnosed in South Africa have been in white males, of whom 26 have died. Nearly all were homosexual or bisexual. Miners, who are mainly migrant labourers housed in squalid hostels on mine compounds, are thought to be one of the main black groups at risk.

A survey carried out over the past year by the Chamber of Mines, which took 300,000 blood samples, failed, however, to find a single case.

Three American firms join Pretoria exodus

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Three more American corporations are to divest from South Africa: Revlon cosmetics, Honeywell electronics and computers, and Fluor, an engineering, construction and natural resources management company.

This brings to 64 the number of American corporate withdrawals from South Africa since January 1985. Of these, 19 have left their operations here more or less intact by selling out to the local management or selling their shares and assets to South African companies.

News agency reports from New York said the Revlon board planned to sell its South African subsidiary, which has a manufacturing plant in some 350 people, as soon as possible and no later than the end of next year.

The reason for Revlon's pull-out was said to be "un-

certainty in the economic and political situation in South Africa, and the Government's lack of progress in dismantling apartheid". There was no immediate confirmation from Revlon here.

In a statement from its Minneapolis headquarters, Honeywell announced that it had sold its South African affiliate to the Murray and Roberts construction and engineering group for an undisclosed sum of money.

Honeywell has five offices here and 175 employees. Local sales represent less than one per cent of its worldwide revenue.

From its headquarters in California, Fluor Corp. yesterday announced that it was selling its South African operations to an independent trust. The local management and workforce would remain unchanged under the new ownership.

December 6-12

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

A plane man's guide to the horse



ON THIS DAY
NOVEMBER 24 1917

This operation was the breaching of the Hindenburg line by the 3rd Army on November 20. British tanks had been tried out at Arras in 1916, but this was the first mass attack, with more than 300 medium tanks. The impetus was later lost through heavy rain and the strength of the German counter-attack.

GREAT BRITISH VICTORY.
BYNG STRIKES ON THE RIGHT.
FIVE-MILE ADVANCE.
HINDENBURG LINE BROKEN.
A BATTLE OF TANKS.
8,000 PRISONERS.

The outstanding feature of the main account, of course, been borne in the

The story behind the story: The Times account of the battle, re-printed last month, which prompted Donald Marendaz to contact us. He is pictured in the cockpit of a Maurice Farman trainer in 1917 and at his Lincolnshire home this week.

A survivor of the last era in which it was still possible to think of war as a tourney and its fighting men as knights has this week touched the elbow of *The Times* and wondered if he might just have a word.

Captain Donald Marendaz, a former pilot in the Royal Flying Corps, begged leave to add to our recent account of the famous battle of Cambrai in 1917 (reprinted in our "On This Day" column). As he was the only RFC flier to penetrate the mist that obscured the Masnières Bridge on the first day of the battle, his was a unique view, and there were just one or two points he thought he might add.

In the interests of historical accuracy it was a duty—and a personal delight—to comply. For what men like Capt Marendaz had done in the skies above France made them heroes to seven generations of schoolboys who carved their aircraft from

balsa, and glued inch-high busts of their idols into cockpits of replica Camels and Fokkers.

Even the realization in adulthood that First World War aces went ill-trained, cursing and terrified to appalling deaths (they had no parachutes yet many chose to jump rather than accept incineration in flaming aircraft) did not deflect the belief that it was above the mud of the trenches where chivalry in combat finally died: and where Biggles was born.

Not that Capt Marendaz, tiny, bespectacled, frail as a spurt, looks now like a Biggles. But he wore spectacles on that November day above Cambrai which, approaching his 90th birthday, he recalls with piercing clarity. Cambrai is famous for its first use of massed tanks in battle: it might have become notable, too, for an epic final disaster for cavalry, had Captain Marendaz not managed to pierce the fog which grounded or diverted every other air-

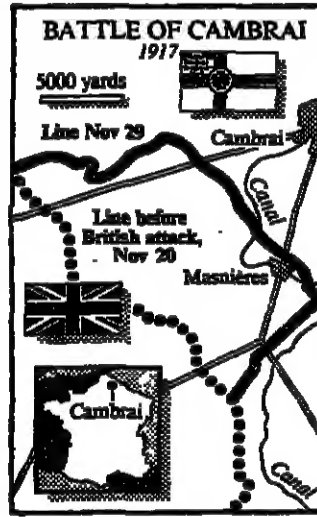
craft, Allied and German, on that first day.

His task when he took off at 7.15 am to begin the 45-minute climb to his Armstrong-Whitworth's operational height of 5,000 feet ("we were usually numb with cold by the time we got up") was to spot for the cavalry arm of the forces. Kept in idleness for most of the war, their chance had supposedly come. The horses were to lunge through the gap made by the tanks and outflank the Germans.

"Couldn't see a thing from up high," the captain said, "so came down to 150 feet. Bit close with all that rifle fire, but only way to get under the fog. Then I saw a British tank trying to creep over the bridge across the Canal at Masnières which the cavalry were to use. The bridge simply bent beneath its weight. Useless. I wound down my signal wire, and sent a message in Morse to tell them to stop... go back."

The captain, in tones as clipped and precise as Morse himself, continued: "Just after that, my plane had all the air taken from its wings by a salvo of shells from the huge 12 inch guns they had brought up for the assault. Felt it go past. Plane started to side-slip down into the canal—about 70 feet wide and just about as deep, as I recall. No water—just a sort of huge concrete trench. We had practically stopped dead and were just falling out of the air."

So what did he do? "Didn't fight the slip... instead I increased it into a vertical bank. Then, using the rudder as an elevator and the elevators as the rudder, I climbed straight up out of the canal... round and round like a corkscrew." Who ever had taught him a trick like that? "Taught? No one. In



those days there wasn't any who knew. Only had 20 hours flying training in all... one hour on the machine I took into action. What you know about aircraft beyond the basic, you found out for yourself. Just pure reaction made me spin that plane up out of the canal."

An historic battle in 1917 established the role of tanks. The official record makes no mention of a little spotter plane, but its pilot told Brian James the story of his own crucial role

Well, there was the time he missed a German aircraft going in the opposite direction in fog by about a yard. And put down beside a shellhole. The first man he saw when he climbed out was wearing "a very odd uniform. He just kept on going. I realized then he was probably a German. Thought I was probably behind their lines so started to make preparations to set fire to the aircraft. Then the Tommies turned up."

Then there was combat. "If a German got on your tail you were dead mutton. Taught myself to fly in a sort of three-dimensional zigzag. It was all very fraught with danger." But was he never frightened? "I think it is true to say not that I was scared of nothing, rather that I was scared of every-

thing." Well, a hero would say that, wouldn't he?

Captain Marendaz's flying career was almost ended before it had begun. On his first flight upon his enlistment, an over-confident instructor finished the initial lesson with a stunt, which put both men and the aircraft through the roof of a hangar. The instructor was packed off the trenches, and the squadron commander sat up half the night trying to ensure that the young Lt Marendaz had not lost his enthusiasm. No chance—young Donald had been obsessed with the air since he had watched the Hon C.S. Rolls inflating his balloons and testing early aircraft opposite his school at Monmouth.

Invalided out with an 80 per cent pension ("which I gave up during the great depression: thought my country needed the money more than I"), Captain Marendaz went back to his other love, fast cars. He helped start the Alvis company. He designed and built the famous Marendaz Special, which, in the late Twenties, set three world 24-hour endurance records at Montlhéry near Paris.

Then he designed another Marendaz sports car in which Stirling Moss's mother, Aileen, demolished all opposition among Continental rivals.

He set up, at his country's request, two clubs in the late 1930s to teach young men to fly. One became the most successful of all, turning out 495 pilots who were to become among the best of The Few. He designed the first trainer with a retractable undercarriage. What is more, the aircraft could "hover" (pre-

dating the Harrier by about 40 years). The same RAF officials who rejected Whittle's jet engine turned down this Marendaz Special. Next he went to Germany and talked his way in to see how the Nazis were training their own pilots—this was just six weeks before the war began.

The flow of reminiscence was interrupted by the roar of an RAF jet about 500 feet overhead. "They like to let me know they are about," he smiled, adding that he didn't really envy those fliers. "They would fight a different sort of war. I think we were the last to have the opportunity to act in a chivalrous manner."

Classical records: pick of the year, Page 13

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"GRAHAM'S IS WORTH SPYING OUT FOR"

GRAHAM'S LATE BOTTLED VINTAGE

Turns any event into an occasion



A trench too far: a British tank halted on the German second front near Ribecourt during the offensive at Cambrai

LUCKY.

It looked like luck had run out for this poor fellow after he was savagely mauled by a dog. Especially as his owners couldn't afford the veterinary fees.

That's when Blue Cross came to the rescue.

We're a charity who cares for sick and injured animals either brought in from the street or whose owners can't meet the expense of private treatment.

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BLUE CROSS

6/12/78

Christmas Gift Guide

FOR EVERYONE

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SOS Talcum could save your life and that of your children. It is the only talcum powder in the world that is 100% talcum powder. It is the only talcum powder that is 100% talcum powder. It is the only talcum powder that is 100% talcum powder.

SOS Talcum

SOS Talcum could save your life and that of your children. It is the only talcum powder in the world that is 100% talcum powder. It is the only talcum powder that is 100% talcum powder. It is the only talcum powder that is 100% talcum powder.

AFGHAN SLIPPER SOCKS £4.95

These socks are made from the finest Afghan wool. They are soft, warm and comfortable. They are the perfect gift for anyone who loves their feet.

TEDDY BEARS

This shop is a must for all Teddy Bear lovers. We offer a magical choice of traditional bears and modern teddy bear accessories. For collectors we have a room full of old teddy bears, all in the best of condition.

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The new book by Susan Black, is a must for all money lovers. It is a practical guide to money. It is the perfect gift for anyone who loves money.

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Special Offer on Parasonic Answering Machines. Don't let business calls interrupt your peace and quiet. Get a Parasonic answering machine today.

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Quality Gifts Champagne Wines & Spirits. Unirose is a leading supplier of quality gifts. We have a wide range of products to choose from.

LOOK CLOSER!

Sharpen your loved one's vision with a pair of glasses. We have a range of stylish frames to choose from.

ANGLO-NORMAN ARMORY TWO

Essential reference for historical studies. Anglo-Norman Armory Two is a comprehensive guide to the armor and weapons of the Anglo-Norman period.

FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS EVERYTHING

Give a friend a subscription to The Friends of the Royal Academy of Arts. It's a great way to support the arts and to receive a collection of books and articles.

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The perfect gift for anyone who loves to eat. Restaurant gift vouchers are available for a wide range of restaurants.

CRICKET

Cricket is a popular sport. We have a range of cricket equipment for sale. We have bats, balls, and protective gear.

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DRINK

Classy claret on the corner

In an age when the average corner off-licence looks more like a run down beer, cigarette and spirit emporium than a wine merchant, the 76 Davisons shops shine out like beacons to discerning drinkers in search of fine, low priced wine.

Anthony Davies, head of a family firm established in 1875, is an appealingly modest about Davisons' success. "The firm was founded by my grandfather, built up by my father and I hope to continue the tradition for my son Michael to carry on," he stresses. It is surprising that a company which manages to sell classy claret and burgundy at seductively low prices has managed to remain independent, despite, I suspect, some ardent wooing from other wine concerns.

Davison's policy succeeds, where other merchants fail, simply because they buy large quantities of young fine wine from the en primeur market, salting it away in their cellars to mature for seven years or more and only then selling it. As a result their customers have access to a wide range of fine, mature Bordeaux and Burgundy.

The company also runs a small public house business, but their latest, and from the wine drinker's viewpoint most interesting, move is the Master Cellar Wine Warehouse built on an old Sainsbury's site in front of their GHQ at 7 Aberdeen Road, Croydon, Surrey. Here the complete range of their wines - 400 in all - are on view, besides an additional range of limited fine wine specials that are not available in sufficient quantities to merit inclusion on their ordinary list. Other branches that offer this extended range include the shop at 674 Fulham Road, London SW6, plus country outposts such as Tenterden, Kent, and Battle, Sussex.

For Christmas wines Jane MacQuitty

Davison's is ideal. Go straight to the Burgundy and Bordeaux heart of their list. Those who can afford it should buy a bottle of the delectable '81 Chassagne-Montrachet. Les Chassagnes from the admirable Domaine Morey, priced at £13.50 this is a costly Christmas first course or aperitif wine, the most expensive white burgundy on Davison's

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Winter dreams

Winter takes a tighter grip in December, and it is almost impossible to picture our gardens green and flowering. Fortunately the seed companies' catalogues are at hand to prompt our imagination.

The main problem with ordering seeds at this time of year is getting carried away in a creative vision which turns out to be severely impractical. One way of keeping plans within reason is to have a map of your garden and to mark out exact positions for the plants you have in mind - sensible people do it on graph paper and make copies so they can compare year with year.

but others - like me - manage with pencil sketches.

Remember to keep plans of previous years or you'll get vegetable rotations wrong. Also, make notes of where precious bulbs and perennials are situated, or you risk digging them up, or planting things on top of each other. If you know the date of your holidays, keep this in mind so you don't leave the task of repelling blackfly on broad beans to your neighbours or miss the best of a strictly seasonal flower.

A wise precaution is to make a copy of your seed order just in case of mistakes. A few years ago I placed my usual order for courgettes (zucchini) and having raised and planted them in the normal way discovered the leaves beginning to blotch and mottle most alarmingly. Whiteness of the leaves can be a symptom of magnesium deficiency - only my plants were white in the wrong places. The plants with their ivory veining grew larger and blottier, and it dawned on me that they looked neither ivory-veined nor mineral-deficient. Only when their flowers gave way to the standard green proto-courgettes but to strange bright buttercup-yellow shapes did I realize that the seeds had been mispacked and that these bright bananas were a new golden coloured courgette.

Luckily this kind of mistake is comparatively rare as seed firms know their reputation depends on correct labelling, but when it does happen gardeners can lose a whole crop. Seed purchases come under the Sale of Goods Act so if there is any degree of loss gardeners should ask for complete compensation from the seed company.

Francesca Greenoak

THE INCREDIBLE SEED CATALOGUE

Major gardeners' reference book of plants in full colour. 228 pages, 1500 illustrations, nearly 4000 varieties. Fully informative when used with the accompanying seed catalogue.

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Continued on page 19

1. 1990

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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

"I'm trying to get out of him the clinching detail. The thing that makes it impossible for the reader to disbelieve," the writer James Fenton explained in last night's *Arena: Cambodia Witness* (BBC2). The "him" in question was Someth May, son of a Cambodian army doctor and survivor of the Khmer Rouge regime, who with Fenton's help has written his autobiography. The programme was an attempt to expose the mechanics of this collaboration, which it succeeded in doing at the expense of leaving you cold.

The vivid qualities of the book did not survive the journey to the screen. Dotted by layers of explanation and narration, we might at times have been watching an excavation of a shopping precinct for all one cared about whether May's father was wearing a "silk" or a "silk" or a "grave" face. It took John Fenton's footage of skulls stacked on shelves like cans of baked beans to keep the horror of this story in focus.

Sitting in Fenton's cosy study, together they would plan each sentence, each word. Fenton appeared to be seeing the events clearly as if he had a film rolling inside his head but we had to be satisfied with his quest for precise times, for the numbers involved.

At one point Someth May recalled how he was caught stealing sweet cassava from the fields and was taken by guards at dawn to dig his own grave. Fenton realized that moments such as this were too hard for May to remember clearly, but he attempted to dredge up as much as possible. With an analyst's probing, he painstakingly pulled May back into his memories but on this occasion the clinching detail did not emerge. Neither did we learn how May escaped that grave.

No danger of too much talk and too little action in *The Colby* (BBC1), which has returned for a new season. Sounding like a collection of brand names for the London Rubber Company: Bliss, Miles, Sable and the gang, have caused the family lawyer to comment: "You know, it's amazing how the rich live." And indeed it is.

While Sable is trying to salvage her marriage by committing her husband to jail, Fallon has discovered that her unborn baby might belong to the wrong husband. As if this weren't enough, a recent American poll has decreed that *Dynasty* glitz is no longer in favour. All the girls have had to trade in their diamonds for plain gold chains, and their sequins for simple silk jersey.

Alexandra Shulman

Passionate involvement with music

Tonight Richard Armstrong enters the pit for the last time as musical director of the Welsh National Opera. The piece is *Götterdämmerung*, in Bristol, and that might appear as grandiose a way as any to depart, although the last work in the *Ring* cycle does not exactly leave much time — or energy — for a sumptuous farewell dinner afterwards.

Armstrong in any case has set his face against "trumpets and gongs" or even a goodbye in Cardiff, which has been home base for the WNO since its birth. He sees *Götterdämmerung* not so much as an apotheosis but a "company piece". "You can't be musical director at a house for a long time, as I have, without putting on *The Ring*. It's dominated my professional life for five years: drawing board, casting, preparation, delivery, standing back and assessing where we've gone wrong. It wobbled a bit at the start, to put it mildly. Indeed I was in despair after *Rheingold* and remember Reggie Goodall coming up to me and saying 'Why ever did you start with that one, dear? By far the most difficult.' He was right of course. But we got better and we brought our *Ring* to Covent Garden.

"And I really do believe that it is a company piece in the same way that an old-fashioned German house would always keep a *Ring* cast within their roster of singers. That's why I've quite deliberately chosen *Götterdämmerung* as the farewell. I don't believe in being fêted: I'd just like to be remembered for what has

Richard Armstrong (right) has been Music Director of the Welsh National Opera for 13 years. Tonight he conducts the company for the last time. Interview by John Higgins

been done and let it be seen." After tonight Richard Armstrong will not himself be seen with the WNO until September 1988, when he resumes the partnership with Peter Stein, so spectacularly established earlier this year in *Otello*, with Verdi's *Falstaff*. When Sir Charles Mackerras takes over at the turn of the year Armstrong will not be an old boy haunting the *alma mater*.

He came to the WNO in 1968, when he was 26, as an assistant musical director to James Lockhart. Experience, such as it was, had been gathered as a répétiteur at Covent Garden. It might have been meagre, but it was of high quality.

"I began to learn the job of conducting through observing Solti and Ted Dones. But there were three other major influences at Covent Garden: working with Giulini on *Traviata* was my first experience of Verdi and gave me the kind of teaching money cannot buy; the same applied to Klemperer's *Fidelio* and Kubelick's *Janáček*."

There is not much point in being an assistant musical director unless there are operas to conduct. Lockhart



thrust his deputy into the pit swiftly with a *Figaro* on a winter's day at the Pier Pavilion. Rhyll (now demolished, but no conclusions need be drawn from that). There were no rehearsals, but the cast did include Tom Allen and Josephine Barstow. Seventeen years later Richard Armstrong does not regard himself very highly as a Mozart conductor — "I'm passionate about him, but I don't think I do him particularly well so far" — and *Don Giovanni* is notable

absence among the 46 operas he has conducted for the WNO.

Armstrong's champion in those early days was the late Alfred Francis, a figure who has never been given his full due and whose influence and diplomacy, before his premature resignation, quenched much of the feuding that went on in the WNO. Francis had learnt some of his skills from Jack Hylton and he had an impresario's nose. He persuaded the board to appoint

Armstrong, still under 30, as musical director, mainly on the strength of a highly successful *Turandot*. "I owe a lot to Alfred, both in terms of support and in what he taught me about style. I remember one night we were playing in Liverpool, and Alfred invited me for a drink. He was usual, was at the Adelphi and asked me what floor I was on. I replied that I wasn't, but was saving money by staying at a much cheaper hotel round the corner. Alfred

feigned horror and said the MD of an opera company had been seen to have the best. I took his point."

So much so that a few years later when Arthur Davies had just joined the company and was sleeping in a converted van, Armstrong gently reprimanded him, saying "I don't think we can have a principal tenor living in a caravanette," and helped provide accommodation. The story is told in *Welsh National Opera* by Richard Fawkes (Julia Macrae Books, £14.95).

Armstrong's reputation grew on early Verdi and on the 20th-century repertoire. Words like "vehement... uninhibited... fiery" were

hauled out to describe his conducting. None could be ascribed to the private Armstrong, who remains an ironic, puckish figure. "No, personally I'm not vehement — rather quiet actually. I accept that there can be two Richard Armstrongs: one in the pit and one out of it. But the reason for that is a passionate involvement in music. The only point really in being a music director is to be able to champion and schedule the works you truly believe in."

He adds, with puckish irony, that as soon as he announced his resignation, one or two operas which he had resolutely rejected started to appear on the future planning lists. It is easy to note that the WNO opened with *Cav & Pag* in 1946 and has never resituated that double bill. French opera too has not played a major part in the repertoire.

During the 13 years at the

helm, with Brian McMaster as general administrator for 10 of them — "I look after the musical side," Brian does everything else which still allows time for his hobby of producing spotting" — Armstrong has only had one out and out flop, the 1981 *Forza* directed by Joachim Herz. "I walked into the pit on opening night knowing that it was not going to work and saying to myself, 'God, there are another 24 performances to go.' I have regrets too about *Masnadieri*, which I think would have been a hundred per cent better if I had stuck to my original intention of performing it in Italian."

The lengthy credit side runs through Britten, Janáček, Tippett, Strauss — when was *Elektra* ever taken on a provincial tour before the WNO? — and of course Verdi himself. A generation of Welsh singers, including Helen Fflewel, Anne Evans, Dennis O'Neill and Arthur Davies, have been developed by Armstrong.

Apart from three performances of *Falstaff* at Monte Carlo at the beginning of next year he will now take an eight-month break from opera, resuming with that Stein *Otello* at the Monnaie in Brussels. "For some time I have been a man with a mission and I have always believed that I would know instinctively when to leave. That moment has come. I go not with a feeling of relief or release, just a great deal of regret." The WNO will lose that rarity in the opera world of the 1980s, the resident musical director.

A promising affair

THEATRE

I Ought To Be In Pictures Offstage Downstairs

Although Neil Simon is as unwaveringly honest a writer as ever struck it rich on Broadway, he comes pretty close to selling out in this 1980 comedy, now receiving its British premiere at 37 Chalk Farm Road.

It is a play about self-confidence which continually betrays its own uncertainty of purpose. The setting is a modest Californian house where Herb, a screenwriter, has taken refuge after three failed marriages and a downward career in the studios.

One fine morning a girl hitch-hiker turns up and introduces herself as Libby, the daughter he abandoned in Brooklyn 16 years before. It is a promising situation. Father and daughter have no memory of each other, and their relationship is free to develop in any direction. But this blank slate seems to affect Simon like the sheet of white paper in Herb's typewriter. At first, he seems to be writing a comedy about a limitlessly confident innocent and a man demoralized by experience. Meanwhile, however, Simon has been shifting his ground. Libby, it seems, is also an ace cook, home decorator and car mechanic. From this point, the comedy of ambition switches to domestic lines.

Like its irresolute hero, the play dithers. Simon is too

honest to declare a happy family reunion. But he leaves that possibility hovering in the air after two hours of establishing it as the one thing that cannot happen.

In Manning Redwood's shambling but alert performance, Herb appears as the author's critical alter ego. He is a funny, wounded and believable figure. So, too, is Barbara Rosenblatt as the stolidly torch-carrying Steffy, Herb's mistress. The soft spot in the play and the cause of its downward spiral is Libby. Barbara Barnes, whose timing matches her perfect physical casting, certainly has a go. But neither she nor her director, Robert Gillespie, can disguise the fact that Libby is a doll that has wandered into human company.

Irving Wardle

Spring Awakening Young Vic Studio

The Inner Circle Theatre Company's shrewd choice for its first London production gives opportunity to a cast of 17. Usually it is left to the subsidized theatre to people the stage so generously, but in Wedekind's blistering play the mainly youngish cast are in turn schoolchildren, grape pickers, reformatory boys and, screwing up their faces under crumpled mortar boards, a clutch of grotesquely cowed-like schoolmasters.

The play is not only a young man's savagely angry work, but grimly funny, which probably made it seem, like *Ghosts*, an even more revoltingly criminal work. Banned for public performance in Britain until the 1960s, its argument for sexual candour has again become relevant, although now we must be honest concerning the risks of death rather than the facts of life.

Wedekind's heroes are the children of a German provincial town growing up in the oppressive atmosphere of the 1890s. The longings of puberty stir within them but every attempt to find out from their elders what is happening is condemned as moral deficiency.

The desperate Moritz shoots out of the struggle and shoots

himself. The 14-year-old Wendla (Sally Cookson, at first too knowing), finding herself with child, dies under the abortionist's hand by her cowardly mother (Miranda Forbes). The only survivor is the rebel Melchior (Tim Whitnall), who is despatched to a reformatory, where he will learn to do what is right and not what is interesting.

The play is constructed in short scenes, some lyrical, some satirical, all displaying Wedekind's psychological acuity, years ahead of his time. Margaret Gordon's ably considered production places them against an effectively simple setting by Helen Tulley of neat wall-planking with panels that revolve to disclose cottage window, school shelf or the entrance to a hay-loft. A master stroke of economical effect is achieved when the staff-room table, with its green baize table, is wheeled to become a grave in the grass.

As Moritz, Steven Currie — whose drawn features resemble those of the young Kafka — gives a performance of remarkable pent-up tension. Words burst from him in little jerks, like a catalogue of sins he cannot believe he knows about. Judi Stewart and Cal McCrystal, as variously tormented children also inspire confidence in the company's continued future.

Jeremy Kingston

DANCE

Swan Lake Palace, Manchester

It should be a matter of much pride for Manchester, as it undoubtedly is to Robert de Warren, just 10 years after he became artistic director of Northern Ballet Theatre, that the much strengthened company is able to present its new production of *Swan Lake* to sold-out houses all this week at the Palace, where they can perform to as many people in a day as they used once to attract in a whole week.

The production, as Judith Cruickshank reported from its Glyndebourne premiere in October, is a thoroughly respectable one. Although André Prokoffsky's staging does not offer any entirely new ideas, he has combined much modern thinking on the work into a logical mainstream version with the tragedy seen as Siegfried's dream of unattainable love.

His choreography makes the most of the company's dancers, and there are some notably attractive details, especially in his use of the Mazurka and the Spanish dance to carry the story forward strongly in Act III. The designs, by de Warren, complement his concept handsomely, making a particularly spectacular effect in the ballroom scene and providing a credible context for the action all through.

For three of this week's performances Rudolf Nureyev, who has recently accepted the title of Artist Laureate in recognition of his support for the company, is appearing as Siegfried, bringing with him one of his most gifted young protégés from the Paris Opéra — Thursday night was the first time Elisabeth Maurin had danced this ballerina role, but I think nobody would have guessed that.

If the role's technical demands held any difficulties for her, she did not let them show. As the heroine Odette, she danced with a quiet, soft gravity. For her wicked double, Odile, Maurin found a

Quiet gravity



Rudolf Nureyev with his gifted protégé Elisabeth Maurin

glittering mask of seductiveness, and she sailed through the 32 fœtts as smoothly as if she had been doing them all her life, with singles and doubles thrown in as a bonus. Maurin's appearance — the blonde and below average height — is not what one first associates with so romantic a role, but she has a quality that carries the day: a gift for catching the meaning of each movement, the purpose of each solo or duet in the ballet's dramatic context, and conveying that to the audience through the quality of her dancing.

She could hardly wish for a more attentive partner. Nureyev's own dancing nowadays is uneven (the more virtuosic steps actually came off better than the legato passages), but he presents the role's drama with keen insight, and his performance is made more touching by his obvious feeling for his young ballerina.

The company as a whole is not disgraced by comparison with its illustrious visitors. The corps de ballet is limited in numbers and there are times here and there of inexperience among its members, but they work together with spirit.

Among the soloists, Judy Holme and Daniela Buson demand special mention for their solos in the pas de trois with Jeremy Kerridge, who also dances strongly but needs to get more stretch in his feet and legs before he equals his partners. Elaine Mayson, and Grace Kaplan in the Spanish dance and Jayne Regan's neat feet in several roles also deserve mention.

I was glad to be able to see a matinee with two of the company's own principals in the leading roles: Sylvie Guillaumin and Michel Messier danced with the style and confidence one expects from alumni of the Paris Opéra. Both concentrate on the sentiment of the roles and might with advantage go for a little more punch, but I have to say that I have seen less good performances from casts with both the Royal Ballet's companies.

John Percival

Nationalistic fanfares

CONCERT

LPO/Bychkov Festival Hall

If grand orchestral gestures and portentous stimuli are all a composer needs to write a great symphony, Andrzej Panufnik's *Sinfonia Sacra* would be up there with the best of them. Composed in 1963 to celebrate 1,000 years of Polish Christianity, it thrusts the listener into a picturesque and (for Polish émigrés, presumably) nostalgic rural landscape.

There are plenty of vivid orchestral effects: trumpeters fanfaring from the four corners of the orchestra; a rhythmically-aggressive central section (a kind of musical synopsis of all the battles ever fought on Polish soil); an old Polish hymn played eerily on violin harmonics, like some ghostly pilgrim band wandering around in a fog; and finally an ear-splitting blaze of nationalist fervour.

At this point one feels that if the four horsemen of the Apocalypse had been available, Panufnik might have had them doubling the trombones. Yet somehow the work falls flat, perhaps because Panufnik's musical language — diatonic, pleasant but unambitious — is too urbane to produce the epic rhetoric needed for the subjects.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra under Semyon Bychkov's direction gave it an appropriately larger-than-life performance. Bychkov's strength does seem to be his hyper-awareness of dynamic possibility, while his major weakness is a casualness about ensemble, as a lurid account of Mendelssohn's "Scottish" Symphony later confirmed: the finale perhaps more evocative of Hollywood kitsch than Hollywood kits, but splendidly spirited nevertheless.

It was, then, pleasantly surprising that in Mozart's B flat Piano Concerto, K595, the Russian happily scaled down the orchestral sound to match Radu Lupu's delicately nuanced solo playing. Consequently, the interplay between pianist and LPO winds in the Larghetto had a chamber-like magic.

Richard Morrison

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Saint and Beasties

ROCK RECORDS

Bob Geldof: Deep In The Heart of Nowhere (Mercury 808 LP1).
The Beastie Boys: Licensed to Ill (Def Jam CBS 4500621).

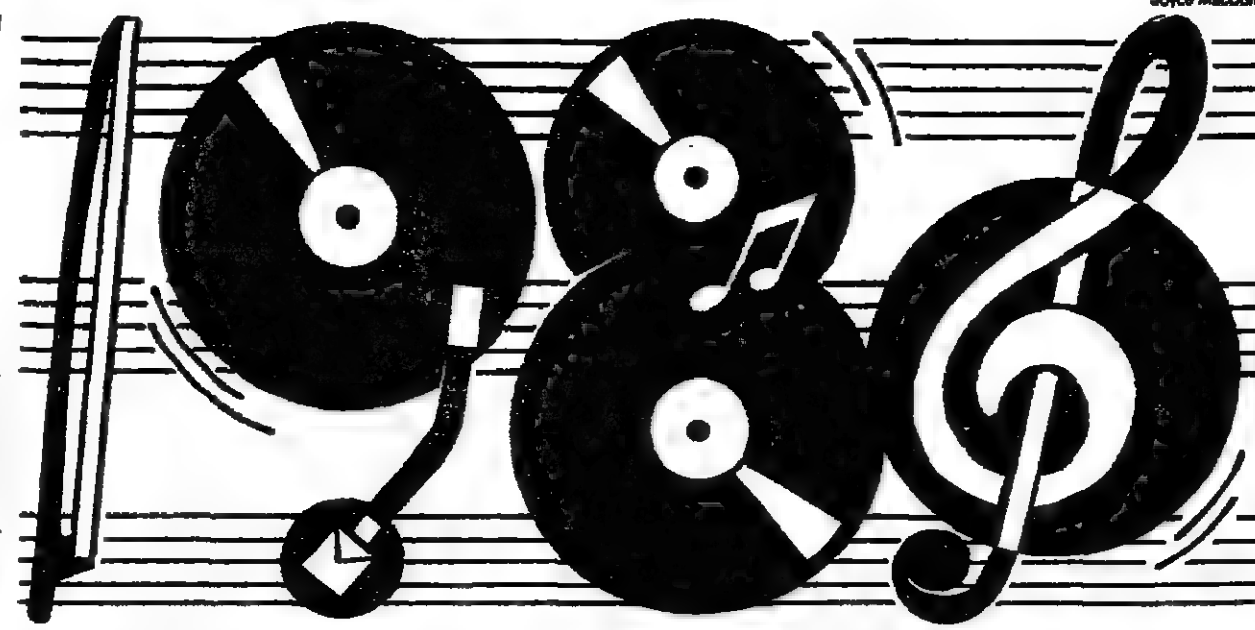
If Bob Geldof could have summed up a fraction of the conviction that he put into Band Aid, then *Deep In The Heart of Nowhere* would be a considerably better record.

But in the wake of his elevation to the status of public dignitary, he seems to have lost faith in himself as a singer and songwriter. His light-weight vocals adopt the mildest mannerisms of David Bowie ("When I Was Young", "This Heartless Night"), Bruce Springsteen ("In The Pleading Rain") and Bob Dylan ("August Was A Heavy Month"), but fail to reflect his own personality. The touching lyric of "Love Like A Rocker" is lost in the bustling pop frippery of the song's arrangement and only "The Beat Of The Night", with its subterfuge pulse and grimly intoned words, conveys any sense of imagination or commitment. While pop music remains Geldof's trade, this album is cruel evidence of his realization that there are far more important things that can be done in the world.

The Beastie Boys could not care less about anything other than their own brash hip-hop music, and *Licensed to Ill* is an exhilarating mix of heavy drum tracks, metal guitar riffs and narcissistic chants guaranteed to offend parents. The best track, "She's Crazy", makes Run DMC sound rather gentlemanly, while the breezy humour and unmistakable glee of "Hold It Now Hit It" and "Girls" make you wonder just how important a degree of obnoxious sophistry is to the making of genuinely exciting rock music. For while Geldof struggles politely but unsuccessfully to make some sense of it all, the cocky Beastie Boys rampage, without apology, over the competition.

David Sinclair

Classical pick of the year



Chausson: Le roi Artus
Quilico (Erato/Conifer NUM 75271, 3 LPs, also CD, cassette).
Berio: Sinfonia
(Erato/Conifer NUM 75198)
Elliott Carter: Martin Hill, London Sinfonietta and the Fines of London (Wergo WER 60124).
Wagner: Der Ring des Nibelungen
Baltza/LSO (Philips 416 807, LP, CD and cassette).

The great operatic discovery of the year for me has been *Le roi Artus*, whose first recording less one into a world that is dangerously Wagnerian but also highly personal. The central role is sung by Gino Quilico with close sympathy for the noble frankness of Chausson's work. Elsewhere the cast has his deficiencies, but they are not enough to spoil a revelatory release.

Another Erato/Radio France coproduction is responsible for the new recording of Berio's *Sinfonia*, this time with Boulez conducting the Orchestre National and the New Swing Singers (soon to be available, I gather, on CD and cassette). The work, even its pot-pourri centrepiece on Mahler, has survived its celebrity.

A new record of two recent works by Elliott Carter reveals his peculiar ability to be both abstract and joyous. The works, the song cycle *In Sleep*, *In Thunder* and the *Triple Duo*, are relatively easy to lock into, especially in these excellent performances.

Lastly a shocker. Agnes Baltsa's way with Wagner's *Wendundonk* songs and Berio's *Les Nuits d'été* is unashamedly individual; it is also stunning.

Paul Griffiths

Glenn Gould (CBS MS 35035).
Horowitz in Moscow (DG 419 489-1).
Mitsuko Uchida (Philips 416 381-2).
Schütz: Der Schwanengesang (EMI EX27 0275-3).

Listening to pianists on record can be an antiseptic experience: everyone is perfect, because everyone is allowed unlimited attempts to get it

right. However, two of the best releases I have heard this year come from pianists playing "live" concerts, and that is a very different matter.

Of the various compilation albums which CBS is releasing of the idiosyncratic Glenn Gould, I value Volume 2 most highly because it contains an electrifying, previously unreleased, account of Beethoven's Second Piano Concerto. Forget the mediocre orchestral playing (a Russian student band), and thank God and CBS that this 30-year-old concert performance has resurfaced, imperfect but glorious.

Horowitz in Moscow records the veteran virtuoso's return to his homeland, where he wowed them with the pianistic showmanship that is still unsurpassed. The London recital was even better, but this DG disc serves adequately to preserve history.

As an antidote to these wilful gents, Mitsuko Uchida's delicate progress through the Mozart concertos is ideal. Her Queen Elizabeth Hall cycle, playing and directing the ECO, sometimes sounded too careful, but these Philips recordings have Jeffrey Tate conducting, and the gain in muscularity is noticeable: try K466 and K467.

EMI gave us Schütz's "last testament", his huge *Der Schwanengesang*, bringing to

wider attention a fascinating musical detective story, of priceless discoveries in second-hand bookshops and dusty libraries.

Richard Morrison

Verdi: Otello Domingo, Ricciarelli, Masetti (EMI CDS 7 47450 8).
Bizet: La Jolie Fille de Perth Anderson, Kraus (EMI EK 2702853, black disc and cassette only).
Fritz Wunderlich, Der grüne Teufel (EMI EX 29 0986 3, black disc only).

Plácido Domingo's Otello for EMI has to be the operatic performance of the year on disc, and with the support of Ricciarelli (Desdemona) and Diaz (Iago) Otello has to be the best of the year.

The overall dramatic thrust of the Scala forces, with Lorin Maazel at his best, suggest that this recording is going to be around for a very long time.

At the beginning of the summer a gap in the catalogue was filled when Bizet's *La Jolie Fille de Perth* came out, with June Anderson and Alfredo Kraus (Covart Garden's team for Lucia this Christmas). The orchestral contribution is weak but the chance of having Bizet's melodies in context more than compensates.

The recital that gave most pleasure was the three-record Fritz Wunderlich set which collects together arias from opera and oratorio which some of us have on old and brittle LPs. What a tenor, especially in Mozart and Lehar! Tauber fanatics should feel threatened.

An excess of greed drives me to lump together DG's reissues on CD over the past few months of all the major opera recordings of two of their leading contract conductors, Claudio Abbado and Carlos Kleiber. If the choice is restricted to one set apiece, then they have to be Abbado's *Simon Boccanegra* and Kleiber's *Freischütz*.

John Higgins

Wagner: Der fliegende Holländer Neelson (Philips 416 300-2, two CDs).
Monteverdi: Fourth Book of Madrigals (Decca L'Orchestra Lyre 414-126-2, two CDs).
Handel: Athalia Sutherland, Jones (Decca L'Orchestra Lyre 417-126-2, two CDs).
Ave Maria Tallis Scholars (Gimell label CDGIM 1010).

As I have yet to hear the rival Philips recording conducted by the composer, my 20th-century release of the year has to be Esa-Pekka Salonen's account of Lutoslawski's Third Symphony, coupled

with the same composer's *Les Espaces du Son*. Lutoslawski's review of the symphonic process has much in common with Sibelius's or Maxwell Davies's, though the polished textures are very much his own, and Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic here present them in a glistering light.

Philips' live Bayreuth recording of Wagner's *Der fliegende Holländer*, conducted by Woldemar Nelsson, is ideal ammunition for those who, like me, prefer to hear a genuine theatrical experience on record to one manufactured in studio conditions. Simon Eses elicits terror and pathos in equal measure as the Dutchman himself, and the recording is outstandingly natural. On only two compact discs, the issue also represents excellent value.

From the Decca Florio-gium camp there are two rivals for inclusion in the Christmas stocking. One is the Consort of Musick's beautifully understated, impeccably tuned performance of Monteverdi's Fourth Book of Madrigals; the other is Christopher Hogwood's apparently annual Handel oratorio. The chosen work this time is *Athalia*, with Joan Sutherland rather cleverly cast in the title role and Aled Jones giving a beautiful account of the small but vital character of the boy king Josiah.

Hilary Finch

Hip hooray for a jazz age

PAPERBACKS

The Hip: Hipsters, Jazz and the Beat Generation by Roy Carr, Brian Case, and Fred Delia (Faber and Faber, £5.95).

Publishers facing a knackered work-out market and anxious not to miss the next trend dream of their newest "style handbook" itself becoming a fashion accessory — a fate that probably awaits *The Hip*.

Although not, perhaps, as desirable in its own terms as a blond crew-cut in the style of the young Gerry Mulligan or a first edition of *Howl*, this handsome large-format paperback is a glorious catalogue of

the years between Pearl Harbor and the Profumo Affair, an era whose agonies and ecstasies are now bathed in a romantic Technicolor glow as sickened by the arrogance of their Beat-generation parents, yet unable to invent a culture of their own, today's teenagers search back beyond hippies, mods and rockers for role models with glamour.

For those who were around at the time of the post-war consumer boom, *The Hip* provides a pleasant memoir, its design idiomatically washing the monochrome pix — Louis Jordan mugging, Julie London smouldering, Roy Brown hollering — in orange, cobalt and pea green, like an

existentialist manifesto. Book designers do not generally get much credit, but in this instance Andy Martin should have had his name up with those of the authors.

Today's revivalists, like Sade Adu and Tom Waits, get their due. And younger readers will learn from these pictures how to hold a saxophone like Art Pepper, play a button-down collar like Billy Eckstine and point like Bardot. Above all that, the best of the prose bears the imprint of Brian Case, a compassionate observer whose phrases echo the elliptical devices of bebop. Here he is on Chet Baker, the fallen golden boy, gazing into a pawn-shop window on a wet

night in the English Midlands: "In among the unredempted typewriters, chromeband wristwatches and radios, is a silver trumpet in a battered blue case. Hatless, the camel overcoat missing its belt, Chet stands in the rain, contemplating the trumpet. He's close enough to cloud the glass. It could be a movie. The wet surfaces tremulous enough to dissolve into some Oklahoma childhood footage of yearning in knee-pants. 'What was I doing? Oh, I was trying to see the name. You never know what a born like that is gonna sound like.' *The Hip* comes close to telling you.

Richard Williams

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BRIDGE

Houdini plays a double

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Armstrong v Rose. BBL Trials, 1986. East-West Game. Dealer North

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55	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
56	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
57	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
58	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
59	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
60	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
61	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
62	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
63	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
64	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
65	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
66	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
67	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
68	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
69	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
70	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
71	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
72	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
73	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
74	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
75	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
76	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
77	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
78	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
79	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
80	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
81	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
82	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
83	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
84	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
85	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
86	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
87	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
88	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
89	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
90	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
91	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
92	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
93	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
94	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
95	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
96	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
97	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
98	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ
99	♠A109	♠KQJ	♠876543	♠KQJ
100	♠KQJ	♠A109	♠876543	♠KQJ

(1) Showing a weak hand with other diamonds or clubs.
(2) On the contrary, but take account that Sheehan had diamonds.
(3) Why not?
(4) Perhaps, some of what had happened, but powerless to do anything but pray.

The defence appeared to be on the right track when I led a heart to Sheehan's ace. Sheehan switched to a trump which, because of my powerful intermediates, I won with the Ace, in order to return the ♠J. I sat back hoping to enjoy some rich pickings. Instead, I had to watch impotently while John Armstrong trod surefootedly along the high wire.

Armstrong took the ♠Q, returned to hand with the ♠K and cashed the ♠A, discarding dummy's remaining heart. He finessed the ♠Q, cashed the ♠A and then played a third diamond, discarding a club from his hand. This left Sheehan (North) on play.

Sheehan played a club and Armstrong inserted the ten. Whatever I did now, I could only make two trump tricks. Of course if Armstrong had permitted me to ruff in at any stage I could have crashed his trumps together, limiting him to seven tricks. By making eight tricks, Armstrong restricted the adverse swing to 7 IMPs. Houdini could not have done better.

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

War of attrition

Anatoly Karpov's result at the great Tilburg Tournament was among his least impressive, but

THE WEEK AHEAD



THEATRE

TAKING GUARD: Brian Cox plays the cricket-loving squire Sir Timothy Bellboys in the Royal Shakespeare Company revival of John Whiting's *A Penny For A Song*. Set on the Dorset coast in the summer of 1804 as the dad's army of their day prepare to repel an expected invasion from the forces of Napoleon, the play puts the muddle and incompetence of the amateur soldiery against the idealism of a young mercenary. The director is Howard Davies. Barbican Theatre (01-628 8795). Previews from Friday, first night December 17.



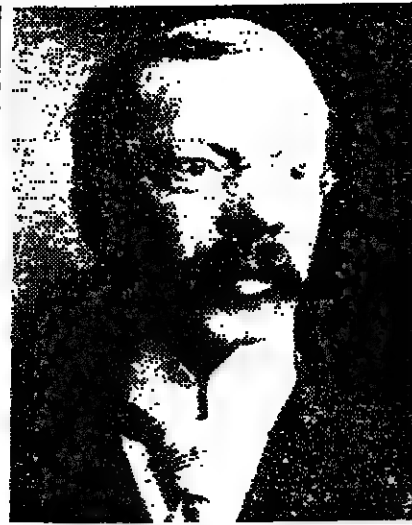
GALLERIES

GALLERIES: David Hockney is home from Los Angeles to show new prints. The boy wonder has put aside his camera and discovered the Xerox machine. By a new process he has made a series of still-lives which are on show at the Knoedler Gallery, London W1 (01-439 1096) from Monday. Hockney's youthful graphics, using more conventional methods, are included among the Warhols, Liechtensteins, Kitajs and Hamiltons in *British and American Pop Art* at the Tate Gallery, London SW1 (01-821 1313) from Wednesday.



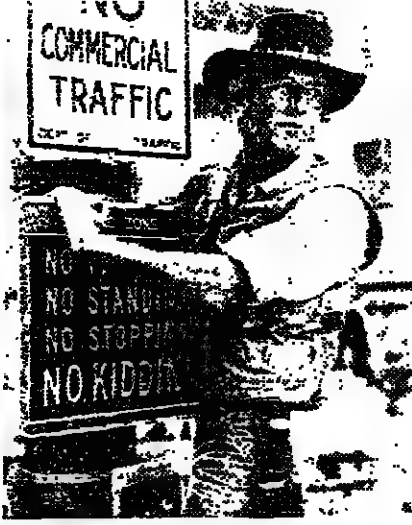
OPERA

CAROL VANESS: Carol Vaness sings three roles in the revival of Handel's *Samson*. As well as Dalila she will be heard as The Philistine Woman and The Israelite Woman, which shows she takes no sides and will give the audience a chance to hear her deliver the opera's most famous number "Let the bright seraphim". The triple engagement is sometimes heard in the concert hall but rarely in the theatre. Robert Tear sings Samson for the first time at Covent Garden. Royal Opera House (01-240 1066), Monday.



RADIO

LETHAL DOSE: Hawley Harvey Crippen was a meek little American doctor who poisoned his wife and eloped with his young mistress, only to be apprehended in mid-Atlantic through the new medium of wireless telegraphy. With the help of legal and forensic experts, criminologist Jenny Ward reconstructs one of the classic murder cases of the century and asks whether the outcome would have been different had the doctor been tried by today's more exacting standards of evidence. Radio 4, Friday, 11.03-11.47am.



FILMS

CROC OF GOLD: Paul Hogan, irreverent star of Australian TV and Foster's lager ads, reaches the big screen in *Crocodile Dundee* (15) — the broad tale of a crocodile hunter taken to New York's urban jungle by an American reporter (Linda Kozlowski). The film has already entered the history books as Australia's biggest ever money maker. For its American release several morsels of Aussie vernacular were removed to save the audience from bewilderment. Leicester Square Theatre (01-830 5252), from Friday.



TELEVISION

GOLDEN OLDIE: Wendy Hiller plays a widow enjoying a new lease of life at 85 in a three-part adaptation of Vita Sackville-West's novel, *All Passion Spent*. Escaping the intrigues of her solicitous children, she takes a crumbling house in Hampstead, surrounds herself with favourite cronies and reflects on her years in India as the wife of the Viceroy. Harry Andrews, Maurice Denham and Phyllis Calvert also star in a story which provides rich pickings for veteran actors. BBC2, Tuesday, 9-9.55pm.

ROCK

BIG COUNTRY: Have they been a bit over-exposed this year? Don't mention the bagpipes. Tonight, Whitey Bay Ice Pink (091-252 6244; Mon, NEC, Birmingham (021-780 4133); Tues, Showroom Pavilion, Shepton Mallet, near Bath (0749 82113); Thurs, Fri, Wembley Arena (01-902 1234).



● **Billy Ocean**, the expatriate Briton who enjoyed a run of hits in the Seventies, starts his first British tour tonight with his American band and special guest Ruby Turner. He has become an Eighties superstar thanks to the multi-million selling "Suddenly" and this year's number one, "When The Going Gets Tough". Tonight, Brighton Centre (0273 202881); tomorrow, Bournemouth International Centre (0202 297297); Tues, Ipswich Gaumont (0473 53641); Wed, Birmingham Odeon (021643 6101); Fri (for three nights), Hammersmith Odeon London W6 (01-748 4081).

SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY AND THE JUKES: As Springsteen fever grips like never before, his former Asbury Park protégé musters a solitary British date. Thurs, Town and Country Club, London NW5 (01-267 3334). Two shows.

THE POGUES: The first drunken shenanigans of 1986 for the rude boys of punk folk. Tomorrow, The Studio, Bristol (0272 276139); Mon, Tues, Hammersmith Palace, London W6 (01-748 2812); Thurs, Leeds University (0532 439071); Fri, Barrowlands, Glasgow (041-552 4601).

JAZZ

KID DRY CENTENARY: Five-a-side, the unusual British band featuring the trombonists Roy Williams, Pete Strange, Roy Grimmins, Jim Shepherd and John Beecham, pays tribute to a great New Orleans pioneer of the instrument. Tonight, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 8800).

BUDDY TATE/AL GREY: A fine combination of forthright ex-Basileites, both Tate's tenor and Grey's trombone being steeped in the blues. Tonight and Wed-Fri, Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-439 8722); tomorrow, Moat House, Bournemouth (0202 299 3311).

COURTNEY PINE: Would you believe that his first LP has outsold Miles Davis's *Tutu* by three to one? Tonight, Club Mankind, 18 Amhurst Road, London E8 (01-985 9186); Wed, Pavilion, Worthing (0903 202221).

ALFREDO "CHOCOLATO" ARMENTEROS: When he was the chief soloist with Machito's band, one wondered how this great Cuban trumpeter would sound in a more intimate setting. Now we'll find out. Tues to Sat, Bass Clef, 1 Hoxton Square, London N1 (01-729 2476).

FILMS

BREED OF HERO (PG): The Marvel Comics character Howard the Duck stars in an erratic live-action extravaganza from George Lucas's production company. With Lea Thompson as a friendly rock singer and Jeffrey Jones as a bungling physicist, directed by William Hickey. Empire (01-437 1234). From Fri.

HAREM (15): A smart New York girl (Nastassia Kinski) is

STOLEN AWAY BY A MELANCHOLY MUSLIN PRINCE (PG)

Chic hogwash, beautifully photographed, directed by Arthur Joffé. Cannon (formerly ABC) Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 6279). From Fri.

LINK (15): Chimpzesses steal all the scenes in this perverse horror film from Richard Franklin, director of *Psycho II*. With Terence Stamp, Elizabeth Snee and, as the title character, Locke the chimp. Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527), Prince Charles (01-437 8161). From Fri.

SELECTED

EAT THE PEACH (PG): Peter Onnord's engaging, polished Irish comedy, based on truth, about a man obsessed with building a Wall of Death. Plaza (01-437 1234), Cannon Chelsea (01-362 5050), Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148).

ROUND MIDNIGHT (15): Bertrand Tavernier's loving homage to jazz musicians, set in Paris during the 1950s; with Dexter Gordon as a saxophonist befriended by an idolizing Frenchman. Lumiere (01-836 0651), Screen on the Hill (01-435 3356), Gate Notting Hill (01-221 0220).

SHOAH (PG): Claude Lanzmann's meticulous and chilling Holocaust documentary; over nine hours long, presented in two parts. Curzon Mayfair (01-499 3737).

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Gains performance of *Die Zauberflöte* on Tues at 7pm, and Siegfried Jerusalem and Karita Mattila as Tamino and Pamina continue their quest in further performances on Fri and into next week. Covent Garden, WC2 (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: The seasonal return of *Die Fledermaus* (Mon and Thurs, 7.30pm) sees Valeria Masterson as Rosalinda, Alan Ople as Eisenstein and Fiona Kimm as Orlovsky. David Pountney's new production of *Carmen*, with Sally Burgess in the title role, continues on Wed and Dec 13 at 7pm. Jan Judge's double-bill of *Cav* & *Pag* tonight, Tues and Fri at 7.30pm. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161).

SADLER'S WELLS: Monotti has come up with a new opera — a little 75th-birthday celebration piece called *The Boy Who Grew Up Too Fast*. Directed by the composer, it is presented in a double-bill with *Amahl and the Night-Visitors* by the Royal Opera House and Sadler's Wells Theatre in association with Youth and Music, and opens on Thurs at 7.30pm with a Fri matinee at 2.30pm. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8916).

TELEVISION

LONDON'S BURNING: A Hit Street Blues of the London Fire Brigade, inspired by the Tottenham riots when firemen came under attack. Jack Rosenthal's script draws on real incidents and cleverly blends the comic and the tragic. Director is Les Blair. ITV, tomorrow, 9-11pm.

NORTH AND SOUTH: An American Civil War soap which is reputedly the most expensive television series ever made. When the Arizona flags, try to spot where the money went. With Lesley-Anne Down, David Carradine, Gene Kelly and Elizabeth Taylor. ITV, Mon, 9-10 and 10.30-11.20pm.

A PEOPLE'S WAR: Vera Lynn, Gert and Daisy, swing bands and GI brides as the history of Britain at war looks at entertainment and sex. Channel 4, Mon, 10-11pm.

TO US A CHILD: Marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Children's Fund, Denis Tuohy's film is a stark reminder that even in the 1980s 15 million children die each year before reaching their fifth birthday. ITV, 9-10 and 10.30-11.30pm.

SCARPE ON SCARPE: A documentary in which cartoonist Gerald Scarpe reflects on a life spent wielding a vitriolic pen. BBC2, Fri, 9.30-10.30pm.

THEATRE

OPENINGS

CANDIDA: Frank Hauser directs Maureen O'Brien, Rupert Graves, David Rintoul and Nicholas Amer in a new production of the George Bernard Shaw "romance with a social and political edge". King's Head, 115 Upper Street, London N1 (01-225 1916). Previews today and Sun; first night Mon.

DORY PREVIN SINGING SONGS AND TELLING TALES: Her first UK show for ten years includes ten new songs and a selection of past work. With a three-piece band. Donmar Warehouse (01-240 8230). Preview Mon. Open Tues.

HERESIES: Premiere production of a play by Deborah Levy, developed through workshops with director Susan Todd and cast members Roger Arian, Susan Colver, Paola Dionisotti, Penelope Freeman, Stella Gonet, Caroline Goodall, Miriam Karlin, Nimmy March, Tina Marian, Ann Mitchell, Olive Russell, Susan Tracy. Betrayal, loyalty and the sexual and political bargains made between men and women. The Pit, Barbican (01-628 8795/638 8891). From Wed. First night Dec 16.

"HEYL, LUCIAN!": The life, times and purportedly mysterious death of Pope John Paul I is the subject of this first stage play of Mark E Smith, leader of the rock group The Fall, who perform on stage during the show. Riverside Studios (01-748 3354). Previews today, Mon. First night Tues.

THE HOBBIT: Rory Robinson and Graham Watkins have adapted the book by J.R.R. Tolkien and Malcolm Dixon has the title role. Original music by Stephanie Nunn. A Christmas seasonal import. Fortune Theatre (01-836 2236). Preview Tues. Opens Wed. Until Jan 24.

MERE SOUP SONGS

London premiere, as a late night "Platform Performance", of a musical piece by Alan Ayckbourn and Paul Todd first seen at Scarborough. Diane Bull, Russell Dixon, Kate Dyson, Michael Simkins, directed by Ayckbourn. Lyttelton Theatre, National Theatre (01-928 2252). Tonight, Fri, Dec 13; Jan 2, 3, 9, 10, 23, 24, 30, 31.

THE MOTHER: Yvonne Bryceland leads in the National Theatre's workshop production, directed by Di Trevis, which has been touring schools, colleges and small venues. Eight performances only. Colston (01-928 2252). Thurs, Fri, Dec 13, 18, 19, 20.

SELECTED

THE MAGISTRATE: Nigel Hawthorne a charming hero in Pinero's imperishable comedy. Performances on Friday and Dec 13, the last until Jan. National (01-928 2252).

THE FAIR MAID OF THE WEST: High jinks on the high seas in mainly successful revival of Heywood's comedy. The Swan Theatre itself well worth a visit. Swan, Stratford (0789 295623).

THE LAST WALTZ: Colla Mink and Alexandra Pigg show how best to survive as an army wife in Gillian Richmond's shrewd play. Soho Poly (01-638 9060).

MIR AND MISS NOBODY: The home life of the Footers, ingeniously staged and not too cosy too often. Just Donoh and Michael Williams a beguiling couple. Garrick (01-578 6107).

THE WOMEN: How to lose and win your man in New York, 1936. Pretty superficial but star-studded and engaging at times. Old Vic (01-628 7616).

LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES: Bloodchilling account of the destruction of innocence under the *ancien régime*. Tickets like gold dust. Ambassadors (01-836 6111).

FILMS ON TV

THE REBEL (1960): Uneven but engaging cinema debut for Tony Hancock as a London office worker escaping to the Paris Left Bank. BBC2, today, 3.15-4.55pm.

L'AMOUR A MORT (1984)/LAST YEAR IN MARIENBAD (1955): Alain Resnais double bill comprising his latest film and his most famous. Plenty for the eye but even more for the mind. BBC2, today, 9.50pm-1am.



● **Billed as "the tragedy of a man who couldn't make up his mind"**, Laurence Olivier's 1948 *Hamlet* divided the critics and became the first British film to win an Oscar for best picture. There was an Oscar, too, for Olivier as best actor. Shakespeare scholars may deplore the getting of the text but Desmond Dickinson's brooding camerawork leaves no doubt that something is rotten in the state of Denmark. Channel 4, today, 2-4.50pm.

RADIO

OUT OF THE MAZE: Unusual documentary from Northern Ireland which reveals that behind the barbed wire of the Maze Prison there is many a hardened terrorist taking A levels and studying for the Open University. Radio 4, tomorrow, 10.15-11pm.

MRS DALLOWAY

Virginia Woolf's novel of the events and moods of a June day in 1923. Maureen O'Brien plays the fashionable lady of the title, throwing a party which stirs old emotions and triggers off a tragedy. Radio 3, Tues, 7.30-8.15pm.

SEE HOW THEY RUN

A *Woman's Hour* series on women in politics kicks off with someone who took nine years to get into Parliament but did rather well subsequently. Name of Margaret Roberts, later Thatcher. Radio 4, Thurs, 2-3pm.

DANCE

DANCE FOR AFRICA: All over Britain from tomorrow until December 14, professional and amateur dancers are performing without payment to raise funds for the work of Unicef with African children. Events start tomorrow with galas in London (Sadler's Wells), Cardiff (St David's Hall) and Newcastle (New Tyne Theatre). There is an official opening ceremony at the Festival Hall (6pm), and the Royal Ballet School at 163 Taigarth Road, Barons Court, London offers classes to anyone over 12 at 10.30, 1.30 and 4.30, plus male-only classes at noon and 3.00.

NORTHERN BALLET THEATRE: *Swan Lake* today at the Palace, Manchester (081 236 9822) and Tues-Dec 13 at Theatre Royal, Norwich (0603 28205).

ROYAL BALLET: This week's only performance is a triple bill (Thurs) of *Young Apollo*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Baiser de la Reine*. Covent Garden (01-240 1066).

LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE: Season at Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916) ends today; so do tours by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet at Bournemouth Hippodrome (0201 622 7846) and Ballet Rambert at the New Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

PHOTOGRAPHY

TAKING THE STAGE: Vivid and vigorous photographs of actors, directors and their attendants by British photographer John Haynes. National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 2033).

THE BRITONS: Huge colour Polaroid group portraits which, for American photographer Neal Slavin, portray the British. Spectacular, bold and arrogant but appealing nonetheless. Stills Gallery, 105 High Street, Edinburgh (031 557 1140).

PRINTED LIGHT: 200 remarkable photographs from the early days. Featuring Fox, Talbot, Hill and Adamson and including many fine portraits, landscapes and cityscapes — all of which have a distinct freshness of vision now associated with the birth of the medium. Science Museum, South Kensington, London SW7 (01-589 3456).

GALLERIES

SONIA BOYCE: Paintings and drawings describing the social and domestic experiences of black people living in Britain by a young artist with a rising reputation. Air Gallery, 6 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 7751). From Wed her work will feature in "A Cabinet of Drawings", a mixed show of artists represented by Gimpel Fils, 30 Davies Street, London W1 (01-493 2488).

JOHN STRICKLAND GOOZALL: Detailed watercolours of festive Victorian Christmas scenes by this popular illustrator of children's books. Christopher Wood Gallery, 15 Motcombe Street, London SW1 (01-235 9141). From Mon.

TURN OF THE YEAR: Mixed show, including Jacqueline Morreau, Sue Dunkley and Larry Wakefield to celebrate the first year of a suburban gallery dedicated to quality rather than fashion. Art Space Gallery, 64 St Peter's Street, London N1 (01-369 7002). From Mon.

JAMES FITTON (1899-1982): A retrospective of the Oldham-born painter and Royal Academician who, in his lesser known commercial work, surprisingly kept pace with avant-garde Russian and German art. Dutch Picture Gallery, College Road, London SE21 (01-683 5254).

CONCERTS

BLAIR/YMSO: James Blair conducts the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra in Elgar's *Faust*, Walton's Cello Concerto (soloist, Peter Dixon) and Britten's *Glorious Suite*. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1081). Today, 7.30pm.

EAST OF VIENNA: For the third of their "East of Vienna" series the Nash Ensemble plays Mozart's Clarinet Trio and Shostakovich's Piano Quintet, and Felicity Lott sings songs by Rachmaninov and Shostakovich's *Seven Poems of Alexander Blok*. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141). Today, 7.30pm.

ALL BEETHOVEN: The LSO is conducted by James Loughran in the *Egmont* Overture and John Lill solos in *Piano Concertos Nos 4 and 5*. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8891). Tomorrow, 7.30.

TAKING STEPPES: Gennadi Rozhdenskiy conducts the Philharmonia Orchestra in Borodin's *In the Steppes of Central Asia* and the Mussorgsky-Ravel Pictures at an exhibition while Victoria Postnikova solos in Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 2. Festival Hall, Mon, 7.30pm.

BERTINI/LSO: Gary Bertini, not a conductor we hear often in London, takes the LSO through Mahler's Symphony No 6 and Krystian Zimerman solos in Liszt's Piano Concerto No 2. Festival Hall, Tues, 7.30pm.

RATTLE/CBSO: Simon Rattle brings the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra to the Barbican for Brahms's Symphony No 4, Silvestri's Symphony No 6 and, with Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich,



New life for an old favourite: Peter Schaufuss, left, and a design by David Walker for the Nutcracker

Leading the Festival dance

Untrammelled by the metropolitan prejudices of other theatre award schemes, the Manchester Evening News has just presented its Dance Award for 1986 to Peter Schaufuss because of his achievement in raising the standards of London Festival Ballet's touring programme and for his personal contribution as a dancer to the popularity of traditional ballet. It is just over two years since Schaufuss took charge of Festival Ballet at a time when its finances and its morale were both depressed. To take on that challenge he accepted a drop in his own income, giving up many of the lucrative guest engagements that beckoned all round the world. He has had to work harder than ever: planning repertory and casting, playing a part in publicity and fund-raising, making the artistic decisions that cannot be delegated, and also dancing and rehearsing. He has certainly achieved results. His first move was to bring in dancers from abroad to set new standards, especially among the men. But at the same time he

gave chances to young dancers within the company in whom he saw promise. He has not been afraid to back his hunch about young talent (the most striking example in his 18-year-old ballerina Trinidad Sevilano) but has also found ways to use the gifts and experience of old-timers such as Alexandra Grant. Sevilano, Grant and Schaufuss himself are all among the casts of the new production of *The Nutcracker* which opens this week at Plymouth and will play at the Festival Hall during Boxing Day. *The Nutcracker* has been a breadwinner for Festival Ballet from the start. Extracts from it were included in the company's first tour in 1950, and successive stagings have brought packed houses ever since for weeks on end in London and on tour. Schaufuss's production sticks closely enough to the original story to have snowflakes and a Christmas tree in its advertisements, and for him to have invited Dame Alicia Markova (Festival Ballet's first ballerina) to teach the dancers the famous *pas de deux* which

she learnt in the early 1930s. But Schaufuss has some surprises up his sleeve too, as indicated by the fact that he of characters list unprecedentedly includes the names of Tchaikovsky himself (doubling as the mysterious Dr Drosselmeyer), his sister Alexandra Drovodova and his niece Tatyana. Up to four or five different dancers are announced for each of the leading roles during the ballet's opening run, but Schaufuss has broken away from one Festival Ballet tradition this Christmas by not inviting any guest stars. It is not that he has anything against guests (Nureyev, for instance, has been dancing on the company's autumn tour), but he obviously feels that his revitalized company has earned the chance to take the initial credits for itself. John Percival

Festival Ballet's *Nutcracker* is at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth this week from Wednesday (matinees Friday and Saturday); then at the Royal Festival Hall from December 28, twice daily until January 3, and evenings plus Saturday matinees until January 17.

Mozart's Piano Concerto

R 508. Barbican Centre, Thurs, 7.15pm.



● You might think nothing of Delius's remains unheard, but one of his early endeavours surfaces on Wednesday when the London Philharmonic gives the premiere of *American Rhapsody*. This is the first version of the haunting masterpiece we know as *Appalachia*, and is very different, introducing *Dixie* and *Yankee Doodle*, suspecting that Delius later suppressed. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, credit cards 01-928 8800), Wed, 7.30pm.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

CHRISTMAS BACH FESTIVAL: Concerts in six London churches by the Monteverdi Choir and English Baroque Soloists, with John Eliot Gardiner. Works include motets, Brandenburg Concerti and Christmas Oratorios. Ticketmaster (01-379 8433). Dec 15-Jan 18.

NEW YEAR AT THE BARBICAN: Booking for two Viennese evenings (Dec 31 and Jan 1), Furtisla 87 Concert on New Year's Day, and Verdi Gala Night. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891; 01-628 8795).

ROYAL OPERA: Postal booking for January performances of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Der Rosenkavalier* and new production of *Otello*. Personal/telephone booking from Jan 2. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, PO Box 5, London WC2 (01-240 1066/1911).

WIGMORE CHRISTMAS CRACKER: Christmas feast of carols and song, including New Year's Eve concert by the Songmakers' Almanac, and New Year's Day concert with the King's Consort. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141).

LAST CHANCE

CAV AND PAG: Last performance Fri of Ian Judge production of double bill with Malcolm Rivers, Helen Field and Christopher Booth-Jones. ENO, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-636 3161; 01-240 5258 credit cards).

TURNER PRIZE: Display of work shortlisted for greatest contribution to British art in last 12 months, including winners Gilbert and George; also Victor Burgin, Derek Jarman, and Bill Woodrow. Ends tomorrow. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 3131).

JEAN COCTEAU: Exhibition on Cocteau to accompany production of *The Internal Machine* with exhibits from the Philharmonia Exhibitions in Paris. Ends tomorrow. Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, London W6 (01-741 2311).

For ticket availability, performance times and opening times, please phone the numbers listed. Films: Geoff Brown; Rock: David Sinclair; Theatre: Tony Patrick and Jeremy Kingston; Television, radio and films on TV: Peter Waymark; Jazz: Richard Williams; Concerts: Max Percival; Dance: John Percival; Opera: Hilary Flack; Galleries: David Litch; Photography: Michael Young; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

SPORTS DIARY

Frances Edmonds in Australia

Taken on the trot

Received wisdom has it that Australian trotting races are irredeemably rigged. Don't believe it. On the first evening of the Perth Test, members of the England cricket team were invited to the Western Australian Trotting Association's meeting, and my card was marked by a sponsor putatively in the know: I won not one depreciated Australian dollar.

Indeed, I would have done better to follow my original instinct and stick to cricket-related horses: It's Simply Magic (David Gower, in his first innings century); Carless Hand (Ben Border, Ritchie at *et al* during England's first innings); King Command (England manager Peter Lush); Astonishment (general sensation in hitherto critical British press corps); Lord Cognac (Phil Edmonds, whose celebrated connection with Hine keeps the team's spirits up); Bonnie Skipper (Mike Gatting); Super Force (Ian Botham); Little Napoleon (disciplinary assistant manager Mick Stewart); Two Thousand Extra (man of the match award worth \$2,000 to Chris Brown); Fiery Black (Barbadian-born Gladstone Small); General Alert (situation in the Australian Cricket Board). And Another Dribble (final resting place of the Australian selectors' current policy).

Snook-cocking

Lindsay Lamb, currently holidaying in Sydney, was suitably distraught when husband Allan was dismissed without scoring during the first innings at Perth. As consolation she sent him a present which he wore on his nose while fielding and which was occasionally borrowed by Ian Botham, also a first innings non-scorer, as new Australian batsmen walked to the crease. Sadly, Allan Border proved unsupportable. The present was a duck's bill.



From the top

After putting in an appearance at the Perth Test — and apparently bringing the home team some much needed luck — Bob Hawke named the Prime Minister's XI for a one-day fixture against England at Canberra on December 23. No doubt appraised of superstars' condition, inexcusable attacks of back pain and hamstring trouble before previous fixtures so close to Christmas, Hawke was at pains to ensure a top-flight England lineup. He congratulated David Gower on his magnificent innings and expressed a strong desire to see a repeat performance in Canberra. "And if you don't appear," he told Ian Botham, "you might have serious difficulty getting a work permit for Queensland next year."

Take guard

Melbourne's Menzies at Rialto Hotel, where the England cricket team are now staying, has ten floors of iron-belted corridors looking down on to a cobbled courtyard — very much like the prison in the TV series *Porridge*. Could it have been chosen to enable Mickey Stewart to lock the lads in at night?

Must try

England's appalling show against New South Wales in Newcastle after the resounding Brisbane Test victory has reinforced the Oz theory that they are engaged in a deliberate play in state matches to confuse and confound the enemy. Rousing rhetoric from acting captain John Emburey met with little enthusiasm in the dressing room. Indeed, it would not be going too far to say he was almost totally ignored. For this touring team, it seems that only the big matches matter.

Overbearing

The good folk of Vancouver decided that the Canada II crew, placed seventh in the America's Cup Challenger series, needed encouragement. Noting how the jaunty boxing kangaroo battle flag had boosted morale in Alan Bond's "Australia" syndicate, the Canadians decided to take a similar tack. The resultant flag, depicting a ferocious polar bear wielding a hockey stick, arrived just in time for this week's third round of racing in Fremantle. But the delighted crew must first solve the problem of how to fly it: the flag is about twice the size of their 30-metre mainsail.

John Tuppen gives the background to this week's wave of unrest

Paris After this week's wave of student demonstrations the Prime Minister, Jacques Chirac, has said he is willing to discuss modifications of the bill on university reform but not to countenance its withdrawal. The proposed measures themselves are not at fault, he believes; they have simply been misunderstood and misinterpreted.

Alain Devaquet, the minister responsible for the universities, sees the bill principally as giving universities greater autonomy. Student misgivings have centred on three particular proposals: to give universities the right to fix their own fees, if necessary putting them up; measures that would nudge students towards courses for which places are available and for which they are best qualified; and the introduction of a new range of degrees and diplomas awarded by individual universities rather than the state.

Fees, now fixed at about Fr450 a year, would range between Fr400 and Fr800. Even at the top level this might appear modest, but in reality the total cost can already be up to three times the basic fee because of additional subscriptions (e.g. for sports facilities) and, for those over 20, social security contributions. The change would prevent many poorer students going to university.

But it is the issue of greater selectivity and possible restrictions on university entry which has most provoked student opposition. This is seen as a direct affront to the long-held principle that the *baccalauréat* represents an automatic passport to a university place. The bill does not propose any change to this fundamental right but there are fears that this will follow and that students will no longer be free to select courses of their choice. The idea of universities awarding their own diplomas is also seen as leading to a more selective system. Along with higher fees, these proposals are seen as threats to the basic rights of liberty and equality.

By contrast, Devaquet and René Monory, the Education Minister, regard the proposals as an important step towards adapting an outmoded system. And Chirac's view that they have been misunderstood is well grounded since, in some respects, there would be little change from the situation today. Selection already exists, whether through a lack of places or a desire to enhance the image of a particular university or department. That is the case both in Paris (notably at Paris-Dauphine, where it is openly admitted, as in provincial centres such as Lyon, Toulouse and Nancy).

It is already accepted that degrees awarded by many of the



Catapult v tear gas: Paris street scene on Thursday night

So many fuses to the Paris student bomb

smaller provincial universities do not carry the same weight with potential employers as those from universities in the big major cities. Similarly, many universities already award their own diplomas. And a strong counter-current among students against the protest movement and the lack of widespread support from teaching staff suggest that the bill is much less radical than it might at first appear.

The implication, therefore, is that certain other factors have inflamed feelings. The student movement has sought to emphasize its political independence but it is clear that this week's disturbances have political undercurrents. Part of the explanation for the present bill is that it would replace a Reform Act introduced in 1984 by Alain Savary, when he was the Socialist minister of education. The Savary measures were never fully adopted by all universities and were strongly contested, not least by the professorial corps, whose powers were considerably reduced.

And the Socialists are not

necessarily innocent bystanders in the present dispute, for many want to avenge the defeat they suffered while in office over their attempt to reduce the role played by private — mainly Roman Catholic — schools. Chirac's ministers may have exacerbated the present situation by their unwillingness to discuss their proposals with student or university representatives.

But it is clear that the present system is wasteful and ill-suited to the demands of the modern employment market. Except for the prestigious *grandes écoles*, medical schools and technical universities (UTs), which are largely unaffected by the protest, the drop-out rate at the end of the first or second year can be up to 50 per cent of the annual intake. Furthermore, while about three quarters of all graduates get a job fairly quickly, often it is not what they had hoped for, itself a cause of disillusionment. If it is accepted that the principal aim of a university education should be to prepare students for a particular career (itself a controversial issue), then some form of improved

orientation or selection seems essential.

Despite renewed efforts by the Chirac government to reduce youth unemployment, France has one of the worst records in this field of the major industrialized countries. So students have reason to be apprehensive about their future. Similarly, the *lycées*, faced with proposals for a revised *baccalauréat*, and uncertainty over university entry, also see their futures threatened.

Arguably, therefore, the main effect of the Devaquet bill has been to mobilize and release the latent discontent among French youth. It is not so much the proposals themselves which have provoked the present outburst but the philosophy behind them, implying for some a more elitist, American-style system of higher education, with associated inequalities in access and in quality.

It is undisputed, however, that the French universities do need reform. Despite the present controversy there is growing agreement between right and left that a more flexible system is required, freed of certain state controls. It is also clear that universities need a period of stability and coherent direction. Whatever the final outcome of the present bill, it has at least brought more into the open a debate which had become highly politicized and which was in danger of taking insufficient account of those directly involved.

The author, an English university lecturer, is currently attached to the Jean-Moulin University, Lyon.

Different systems but it's the same old pinch

Corinne Lafonta is 21 and in her fourth year at the Sorbonne studying for her *maîtrise* in political science. Like most students she receives no government grant. Her mother, who is divorced, has a well-paid job but has two younger children to support and gives Corinne no financial help.

Corinne nevertheless considers herself lucky (writes Diana Geddes) because her mother allows her to live rent-free in a small flat she has in the suburbs, although travelling is expensive and time-consuming.

Like most French students, Corinne pays no tuition fees but has to pay a total of Fr1,660 a year in state social security contributions, registration fees, and various other university dues, in addition to what she needs to spend on food, clothes, books, heating, telephone, and travel.

All this means she has to have a job. Last year she gave German lessons and this year has taken a job looking after two children, aged two and three, for 20 hours a week, from which she earns about Fr2,000 a month. But it is day work and the children need constant attention, so she is unable to get on with her studies.

Her lectures at the Sorbonne take up another 30 hours a week. For four and a half hours a week she takes "directed study" classes, attended by 30-40 students. That is her closest contact with any of her professors.

She has little time for private study: her day begins at 8 am when she leaves home to attend her first class at the Sorbonne at 9.

Manila The Philippines revolution has won a second chance as President Corason Aquino seeks to consolidate her power with a truly stable government.

The victory won by the priests, nuns and people's power last February, backed by the army's decision to abandon the Marcos regime, has proved uncertain over the intervening months: both the right and the extreme left remain unsatisfied; the right because Juan Ponce Enrile, dismissed as Defence Minister last month, was thwarted in his attempt to seize power; the left because it missed the chance which the revolutionary situation offered.

But now, given luck and greater determination than she has hitherto shown, Mrs Aquino will be able to begin restoring the economy and the country's image abroad. The instability of her 10 months in office has taught her that those to whom she is closest are not necessarily those most suited to run the country. She has already dismissed two ministers for corruption and the head of two big government concerns whom she considered too supportive of Enrile. Other ministers may follow, including some considered incompetent by the military. That incompetence has added to the government's image of indecision.

Projects in the Marcos years, started with international loans, were bankrupt before the cou-

Classes continue until 1.30. From 2 until 7 she looks after the two children, before returning home at 8 for a quick meal, followed by study until 11.

Sometimes she goes out with her boyfriend on a Saturday evening, but otherwise she has almost no leisure activities: she has not been to the cinema for months. She does not belong to a student union but supports the present protest movement and on Thursday joined the demonstrating students at the Invalides after finishing her child-minding job, but did not have time to take part in the actual march.

Last year she almost gave up university because she found it so difficult keeping up with her studies and earning enough money. But she finally managed to soldier on. Her aim is to get her *maîtrise* in the summer, before going on to study for the highly-competitive aggregation examination which she needs for her desired career as a school or university teacher.

"I'm not hungry or in difficulties," she says, "but if I want to go to the theatre or the cinema I've got to budget very carefully. Most of my friends accept that as students they're going to be constrained financially."

Andrea spent her first year in one of the LSE's halls of residence:



Corinne: has to work

Andrea Wilson, a second-year social anthropology student at the London School of Economics, says her parents, who live in Co. Donegal, are comfortably off. Because the student grant is means-tested, that means she receives only £600 a year (instead of the full London grant of £2,246) and has to rely heavily on her parents for her living expenses.

They give her £250 a month: not easy for them, she told John Clare. She saves another £600 a year by working in the anthropology library at lunchtimes but admits that is more for the immediate access it gives her to books than for the money.

"I'm not hungry or in difficulties," she says, "but if I want to go to the theatre or the cinema I've got to budget very carefully. Most of my friends accept that as students they're going to be constrained financially."

Andrea spent her first year in one of the LSE's halls of residence:



Andrea: supported from home

a self-catering flat within walking distance of the college. But she says she prefers to choose her own friends and now shares a pleasant flat in Battersea. But it costs her £35 a week and she is thinking of looking for somewhere cheaper.

A gentle and self-possessed 22-year-old, Andrea was admitted to the LSE with three A-levels: A grades in English and French and an E in German. She had worked in Sudan for a year, half of it teaching English and the rest in a nutrition centre at a refugee camp.

"It's less horrific than watching it on television: at least you feel you're doing something." And it gave her a taste for anthropology.

Her formal workload is light: four hours a week of lectures (between 20 and 80 students in the class) and another four hours of seminars, usually in groups of 12. But that is not counting all the essays and reading she has to do. Andrea says her aim is to work on her own for about four hours a day.

She takes her work seriously, and clearly enjoys herself. "I love the subject," she says, "though I am finding the course a bit frustrating. You have to be very analytical and critical, which I am not used to."

She says it is possible to have a very full social life at the LSE: it has many clubs and societies and the college itself is close to Covent Garden. However, being so central has its drawbacks: there is not much of what she calls a "community spirit" because most students treat the campus like a 9 to 5 office.

But she adds, smiling: "I've no complaints, really."

the investment and jobs which are essential to combat the root causes of the insurgency.

If Mrs Aquino can now prove that she can rule rather than merely reign, she may yet help to save the Philippines from what looks increasingly likely to be its fate: yet another coup-prone Third World country. Some of the young colonels who supported Enrile may be going back to their parent units, neutralized for the present, but the military is now irrevocably politicized.

Mrs Aquino's Christian spirit of forgiveness does nothing to discourage these adventures. No one is being punished for the last three such incidents.

She must be ready to do all the dirty work on her own next time. She is assisted now by two products of West Point in General Fidel Ramos, army chief of staff, and Rafael Iloilo, the new Defence Minister, a combination to gladden the heart of the most jaded US policy maker. Both, for the present, are going along with her strategy of peace talks with the communists and dissident Muslims, but on this and other issues there is plenty of scope for divergence later on.

But her supporters hope Mrs Aquino can make it to the plebiscite next February. Officially, it is on the new constitution, but everyone in the Philippines and abroad will see it as a referendum on her popularity.

Peter Brimelow

Of moles and Mounties

New York

Almost exactly 30 years ago, Canada's external affairs minister, Lester B. Pearson, played a major role in orchestrating the United Nations' Suez expedition. This heroic feat helped win him the Nobel Peace Prize; and that, in turn, materially assisted him to become Liberal Party leader and Canadian prime minister. He died, much honoured, in 1972.

No one would dispute Pearson's place in the pantheon of international progressivism. But a new book, *No Sense of Evil: Espionage, The Case of Herbert Norman*, suggests that there is room for argument about the precise nature of that progressivism.

The author, James Barros, a professor of history at the University of Toronto, uses previously secret government documents to assess the career of Herbert Norman, the Canadian ambassador to Cairo. In 1957, in the immediate aftermath of Suez, Norman committed suicide after being cited as a former communist in testimony before the US Senate's Internal Security sub-committee. Contrary to popular legend, throughout the 1950s there was loud and indignant opposition to what was invariably called "McCarthyism" — although the controversial junior senator from Wisconsin had nothing to do with this investigation. After Norman's death, liberal outrage in the US and Canada was so extreme that the very existence of the sub-committee was threatened.

Pearson, in the Canadian House of Commons, was particularly outspoken until John Diefenbaker, the Opposition leader, asked him to deny the American allegations. To everyone's surprise, Pearson hedged. It emerged that while at Cambridge Norman had indeed "associated... with people who were thought to be communists." He had been questioned about this by the Canadian authorities as early as 1951.

It is a measure of the universal reluctance to think about security problems that Herbert Norman has nevertheless gone down in Canadian history as an immaculate martyr. It is particularly extraordinary because gradually, over the years, Norman's defenders have shifted their ground. Now their position is that everyone knew "Herbie" had been a communist at Cambridge. After all, he once tried to recruit to the party a fellow Canadian, Robert Bryce, who also went into the Canadian civil service and eventually headed it. But Norman's defenders say, so what? That doesn't mean he was a spy.

This concession effectively ends the debate about Herbert Norman. To admit that he was once a communist is to admit that he was, by definition, a security risk. The safety of the state is always too important to permit the

assumption of innocence until guilt is proved to the satisfaction of lawyers. The Senate sub-committee was right, and its innumerable critics wrong.

Professor Barros, however, goes much further. He is able to show that Norman lied to his interrogators. Combined with massive circumstantial and other evidence, such as the subsequent testimony of spies such as Sir Anthony Blunt ("Herb was one of us"), this leads Barros to conclude that Norman was probably at least a Soviet "agent of influence".

Any such conclusion is necessarily speculative. More concrete, and ultimately more alarming, is Barros's demonstration of Pearson's deep commitment to the sustained effort to protect Norman. Pearson was directly responsible for the perfunctory investigation of Norman in the early 1950s. He deliberately deceived the Canadian House of Commons about the results.

Pearson's behaviour must raise the gravest questions about his motives. And Professor Barros suggests grave answers. In a remarkable coup, he has obtained the long-remembered secret testimony of Elizabeth Bentley, courier for a Soviet spy ring in Washington, before the Senate sub-committee in 1951. Under oath, Bentley said that Lester Pearson had knowingly passed information to her ring while working in the Canadian embassy in Washington during the Second World War.

Whatever the truth of Bentley's assertion, the fact that it was known at the highest levels in North America is indisputable. For example, when Diefenbaker was prime minister years later, he even used it to parry an attempt by Pearson to put pressure on his government during a complex Ottawa sex scandal, the so-called Munising affair.

Bentley's assertion is a fact that could help set in perspective such topics as the persistent anti-Americanism of Canada's governing classes and Ottawa's prolonged refusal to prosecute Professor Hugh Hambleton, of Laval University, who for years openly admitted he had spied for the KGB but was finally arrested and convicted only after he strayed into British jurisdiction.

It could — but it probably won't. Despite the efforts of Chapman Pincher and Andrew Boyle, our political culture simply lacks the language to discuss security risks. Lester Pearson could have been merely an irresponsibly ambitious bureaucrat currying favour with an influential (and allied) power through the Washington practice of the leak. But unless he was meeting Russians at midnight wearing a cloak and rapier, our press and politicians would prefer not to know.

The author is a senior editor of Forbes Magazine.

Philip Howard

Grammar: rules but not rule

I dare say that our education system is hopelessly old-fashioned and that the children we are turning out from school are feeble, illiterate and ill-prepared for the modern world. At any rate it is comforting for our vanity to think that we were so much better educated than they are. The extreme argument that standards are falling would be more impressive if the ideologues who put it used English better. It is an agreeable irony that devotees of the three Rs, flogging, and grammatical studies are not distinguished for any very remarkable felicities of expression.

When was this golden age of English grammar? It usually turns out to have been when the angry old men and women were at school themselves. Their problem is not falling standards, but age. They find themselves surrounded by bewildering new knowledge and younger rivals, and the only change they can confidently attack is the change in the supposedly adamantine laws of grammar.

In fact we were taught very little English grammar. At primary school we parsed, and learnt by rote long spelling lists of difficult words like diarrhoea and eschscholtzia, so that to this day I can write them down confidently without snatching for the dictionary. An impressive trick, and as useful as Heather, the Jack Russell, being able to bounce a football on her nose six times without touching the ground.

At secondary school we were taught no "English", apart from being required to write Sunday Questions (essays on a devotional theme) and essays for a General Paper. An anxious mother once asked the Head of Greek how a boy could pass through the Old Col from the age of 12 to 18 without ever having to read Shakespeare or Dickens except for the purpose of translating them into Greek or Latin verses or prose. Richard replied imperially: "They can read them in the holidays."

Alas, mortification and damnation, there is no evidence that the children coming out of our schools are worse than we were. They may be worse spellers, but a learned Greats examiner at Oxford declares emphatically that standards are as high as they were 30 years ago, and the sixth form children I meet seem alarmingly bright, and more articulate than we were.

What has happened is that there has been a reaction from the ancient regime of the three Rs and learning eschscholtzia by rote to self-expression and a let-it-all-hang-out radicalism.

We could have done with a bit more self-expression instead of plagiarizing our text books. But all reactions, the reaction from the old grammatical purism has been taken too far by some.

Chris Wormell



enthusiasts. What is needed is a sensible advance towards the noble goal of universal literacy and articulation for our children. It is worth remembering that this is a very recent goal indeed.

Grammar was made for man, not man for grammar. It can be taken too far. On his death-bed the great French grammarian Dominique Bouhours announced: "I am about to... or I am going to... die, either expression is used." And the grammar of the Golden Age was not all that hot. The schoolboys who became the literary stars of the Elizabethan Age learnt from Horman's *Vulgaris*, translating English into Latin, badly. We will play with a ball of wynde: *Luxum erit nobis folia ingularis spiru tumens*. This was handball, not football, which was considered barbarous, and forbidden by the Act of Parliament at the time. The contemporary *Book of the Governor* speaks of "Football, wherein is nothing but beastly fury and extreme violence; whereof proceeded hurt, and consequently with them that be wounded." Our common standards of grammar and football have improved greatly since those uncouth days.



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STERN PASTORS

The Roman Catholic Church likes to make a distinction between the moral and the pastoral, between theory and practice, with a necessary but not simple connection holding them together. In principle, as the Vatican has recently restated, it finds homosexual activity immoral. It finds contraceptive activity immoral too.

Faced, however, with actual Catholic homosexuals on the one hand, and the serious threat to public health from Aids on the other, it is from its pastoral wisdom that the church draws its approach, not from the strict letter of the law. Thus the line emerging from official Catholic circles in Britain is that the Government's official promotion of condoms as a form of protection against Aids does not necessarily have to be resisted on principle.

By contrast, doctrine is much more to the fore in the Vatican statement "On the Pastoral Care of Homosexuals". This bears all the marks of having been written with particular reference to a debate in the Catholic Church in United States. The statement is outspokenly firm, even stern. It describes homosexuality as a disorder, even a tendency towards evil, and the guidance given to Roman Catholic bishops everywhere is that they should say so in unmistakable terms. The Vatican is clearly anxious that ideologies associated with radical homosexual groups, which place

homosexuality and heterosexuality on an equal footing and denounce the church's traditional teaching as "heterosexist", should gain no support from the church whatsoever.

It would be too cynical to suppose that the Vatican had calculated that growing public alarm over Aids provided an excellent opportunity to put the boot in. But the frequency in the statement of that favourite Christian word "compassion" is a good deal below average.

In Britain church spokesmen, including Cardinal Basil Hume, have been careful to exclude the intolerant and absurd notion that Aids is a supernatural punishment. The Vatican is more anxious to ensure that talk of compassion does not obscure the church's strong and fundamental objections to homosexuality.

All this has more to do with the public political dog-fight over sexual morality in the West than with the real pastoral needs of homosexuals. Many, Catholic or not, remain unhappy and isolated individuals, scarcely touched by the advance of the "liberation" promoted in their name. If "pastoral" means what it has come to mean, namely the care for individuals which starts from where they are rather than where they ought to be, then the Vatican statement is misnamed.

In its own current pastoral guidelines, the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales has come closer to an

understanding of the real human problems. The Catholic bishops quietly support the activities of the Catholic homosexual organization, Quest, and will continue to do so, notwithstanding the Vatican's charges against various unidentified bodies of that kind. It would not be surprising to find that the English Catholic hierarchy regarded the Vatican's contribution as misjudged, indeed as somewhat harsh. The distinction between an idealist moral theology and a more humane and pragmatic pastoral practice is not easy to maintain in theory, and it is harder still to apply. In the case of the English Catholic hierarchy's attitude to the current Government Aids programme, for instance, there is considerable room for misunderstanding both by the faithful and outside the church, if church agencies are seen to be co-operating with the promotion of measures which appear to contradict the church's official teaching.

The same possibility of misunderstanding exists if the church tolerates a Catholic homosexual organisation, while at the same time teaching officially that homosexuality is sinful. The drifting apart of moral theory and pastoral policy should worry the church, for it is bound to lessen the respect it may command. Nevertheless a pastoral practice which had no grasp of absolutes or ultimate goals at all would leave the church with nothing to say at the level of public argument.

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TWO CHINAS BY DEFAULT?

Ever since the normalization of US-Chinese relations and the signing of the Sino-British agreement on the future of Hong Kong, the waters off the coast of Mainland China have looked calmer than for several decades. Now, two separate developments threaten to disturb that calm: the untimely death of the Governor of Hong Kong, Sir Edward Youde, announced yesterday, and today's elections on Taiwan in which an opposition party is being taken for the first time.

Sir Edward Youde, an accomplished diplomat and Chinese scholar, will be mourned equally in Britain and Hong Kong. As one who understood the many sides of the China-Britain-Hong Kong relationship and showed a rare sympathy for the often conflicting claims of each, he will be greatly missed.

His loss will be recognized in Peking, too. It is in China's interests as much as those of Britain or Hong Kong to ensure that the transfer of the colony to Chinese rule proceeds as smoothly as possible. Sir Edward, a man of sensitivity who commanded respect, was supremely qualified to oversee the years of transition while retaining the trust of the people of Hong Kong. The appointment of a successor will be as difficult as it is crucial.

There is a sense, however, in which Sir Edward's most important work — the intricate diplomacy which provided for the transfer of Hong Kong — was complete. The immediate future of the colony has now been decided: barring violent change in China, it will revert to the Mainland as soon as Britain's lease comes to an end in 1997. The way of life in the colony will change — though not, it is to be hoped, beyond recognition — and that change has already been set in train.

In Taiwan, however, change

is just beginning, generated not only from outside (as in the case of Hong Kong) but also from within. The emergence of an opposition party, the Democratic Progressive Party, is one sign of changing times. Until now, the Kuomintang government has successfully prevented the formation of political parties other than the ruling KMT and two minor parties on the grounds of national security. The threat from the Mainland, so the argument ran, was so great that political unity was a precondition for Taiwan's survival.

For nearly 40 years, since the Nationalists fled to Taiwan, that argument has held. It sustained the formal perpetuation of martial law on the island and prevented the emergence of any organized opposition to the KMT. The right of the Nationalists to rule as the legitimate representatives of a united China was based on their resistance — past and present — to communism in China. Their president, Chiang Ching-kuo, inherited his right to rule from his father, Chiang Kai-shek, and it was unchallenged.

Like Mainland China, Taiwan now faces a problem of succession: the succession not only of rulers, as those who fought the civil war grow old and die, but of attitudes. Folk memories on the Mainland today relate as strongly to the cultural revolution as to the Long March. On Taiwan, the flight from communism is a fading memory. A relative industrial prosperity, advanced technology and lively commerce are all the new generations of Taiwan Chinese know.

To prolong and enhance that prosperity, Taiwan needs new contacts and new markets. Once the United States ended its formal diplomatic recognition of Taiwan in fa-

vour of Mainland China, Taipei's international status and its claim to represent all China faced inevitable decline. The old attitudes of "no contacts, no talks and no compromise" with the Mainland began to seem obsolete. They are formally opposed by members of the Democratic Progressive Party, which does not rule out — as the Kuomintang does — the eventual acceptance of two Chinas: the Mainland and Taiwan.

In Taipei for the time being the KMT slogans remain, but the reality behind them is slowly changing. Trade with the Mainland, while officially non-existent, flourishes through third countries — notably Hong Kong. Secret talks have reportedly taken place with Peking, and the hijacking of a Taiwan jet to the Mainland earlier this year was handled with civility and led to the first public encounter between the two sides. Now the Democratic Progressive Party, while officially outlawed and prevented from fielding its candidates except as individuals, has not been banned.

These initial signs of change on Taiwan should not, however, be interpreted as harbingers of the reunification of Taiwan with the Mainland as Peking would wish. Taiwan is not another Hong Kong or Macao; it is still — to the majority of its people — the true bearer of Chinese identity and culture, and the Kuomintang the only legitimate government of China. Reunification — on Taiwan's terms, however unrealistic that appears — remains Taipei's chief objective.

The acceptance of a world which accommodates two Chinas is still a remote prospect. Just how remote, will be shown by the success or failure of the Democratic Progressive Party in today's elections.

FOURTH LEADER

The speaker of the House of Commons ruled on Monday that the term "wimp" is an Unparliamentary Expression, and may therefore not be used by one member as a description of another. But immediately afterwards, he ruled that "wally" is acceptable.

It is not for us to attempt to analyse Mr Speaker's thought-processes, but we feel bound to point out that the great Dr Burchfield defines a wally as "one who is foolish, inept or ineffectual", and a wimp as a "feeble or ineffectual person". Which suggests that Mr Speaker must have been sharpening Occam's Razor just before the question arose, so fine are the distinctions he can make.

He does, it is true, build on broad foundations. Among the expressions that Speaker by Speaker, have been ruled impermissible over the years, are

blackguard, cad, dog, cheeky young pup, impudent puppy (nothing about cats so far, we observe), criminal, hooligan, murderer, traitor, hypocrite, jackass, ruffian, ratsnipe, Pharisee, slanderer, rat, stool-pigeon, swine and "Member returned by the refuse of a large constituency". The next edition of Erskine May will, no doubt, extend that list by a wimp, but we cannot help feeling that, as the other banned terms move up to make room for it, they will wonder whether today's MPs are getting a little too sensitive — too wimpish, you might say.

This is hardly the place to point out that, although Members may not use such expressions about one another, they are free to use them about the rest of us. Mind you, we wouldn't be too upset at being called a cheeky young pup (truth to tell, we often were so

called in our youth), or even a jackass, but we would draw the line at hooligan, ratsnipe, stool-pigeon, ruffian and rat, and would take only small comfort at the thought that nobody, inside or outside the House, could allege that we were returned by the refuse of a large constituency. We are slightly surprised that "pig" is not on the Speaker's index; it is surely no less offensive than cad, slanderer and swine, and we find it difficult to believe that no Member, in the heat of debate, has ever let the word slip. But we live, it must be said, in a meaty-mouthed age.

In 1672, as the Lord Chancellor was taking his seat, the Duke of York called him a rascal and a villain, and went unrebuked; indeed, the Lord Chancellor urbanely remarked that he was obliged to His Royal Highness for not calling him a coward and a papist as well. Anyone for yuppies?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Proprieties in MI5 book trial

From Mr David J. Lanning
Sir, One aspect of the current MI5 case in Australia which does not so far appear to have attracted comment is the propriety of Sir Robert Armstrong speaking on the telephone to a colleague in the Cabinet Office about the evidence he had given while he was still in the middle of being cross-examined.

The normal rule in England, in both criminal and civil cases, (and one assumes that the same rule applies in Australia) is that once a witness has begun to give evidence he must not communicate with anyone about the case, whether directly or indirectly, until his evidence is concluded.

The reason for the rule is obvious and the judge will usually remind a witness of it at any adjournment. Equally, it is improper for any third party to seek to speak to a witness about the case in which he is giving evidence.

It may be that Sir Robert obtained the leave of Mr Justice Powell to speak to his colleague in London but the extracts you report on November 29 from the further cross-examination by Mr Malcolm Turnbull suggest otherwise. Clearly Mr Turnbull did not object to what had occurred, if only for the reason that he had misled the court, albeit unwittingly.

If, as your front-page report would indicate, the Cabinet Office got in touch with Sir Robert on the Prime Minister's instructions, the impropriety is perhaps the more worrying and serious. Yours faithfully, DAVID LANNING, 8 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

From Lord Shawcross, QC
Sir, Mr Michael Rubinstein, in his letter (December 3), talks about "red herrings in a murky sea". He should know, for his letter is a good example.

The present case is not at all about a Civil Servant's "sincere concern in the nation's interest" leading him to break his oath. It is about a Civil Servant long since retired who for reasons of personal greed and exhibitionism seeks to sell in a foreign country, information about long past events in clear breach of his oath.

No security service, nor indeed any other business could be carried on if such conduct were to be tolerated and it is deplorable that in this country there should be any support for it. Yours faithfully, HARTLEY SHAWCROSS, House of Lords, December 3.

From Professor Graham Hough
Sir, We have heard a great deal lately about the obligation of lifelong confidentiality laid upon those engaged in intelligence work. This obligation is indeed a strong one, but it cannot be absolute.

If the withholding of information were to conceal a serious crime it should not be withheld. And if the withholding of information were used (to put a hypothetical case) to protect a long-standing network of treachery, collusion in treachery, official chicanery and political lying — there would then be an overriding obligation to bring the matter into the open. Yours faithfully, GRAHAM HOUGH, The White Cottage, Cranbury, Cambridge.

Striving officiously to keep alive

From Professor M. Rosen and Professor M. D. Vickers
Sir, Your editorial, "To hasten death" (December 2), is misleading. There is no treatment of pain and suffering which definitely would cause a reduction in life expectancy.

In choosing suitable treatment there may be an increased risk of fatality, which must always be balanced against prognosis. For instance, it would almost always be justified to take some risk in order adequately to relieve pain in a patient with a terminal illness, whereas in the case of post-operative pain a high margin of safety must be maintained.

In terminal illness the concern of the family is to relieve the suffering of the relative. In the lay mind this aim is often synonymous with death but should not be so confused by a clinician. There is no place for administering drugs solely to shorten life and the reported actions of Lord Dawson (if true) in administering intravenous morphine and cocaine to an already unconscious patient (report, November 27) were both unethical and illegal.

Resisting the temptation "to strive officiously to keep alive a patient for whom there is no hope but only suffering" raises the different problem of stopping artificial life support and letting nature take its course.

The dilemma is to be sure that the prognosis is hopeless. Fortunately, there is now certainty of opinion in the case of brain death, for which the criteria have never been faulted.

In many other instances there has to be an element of judgement. Relief of the patient's suffering must then be the paramount consideration: not hastening death. Yours faithfully, M. ROSEN, M. D. VICKERS, Department of Anaesthetics, University of Wales College of Medicine, Heath Park, Cardiff, December 2.

Battle of Cambrai

From Major-General A. J. Trythall
Sir, In the introductory paragraph to the reproduction of your report on the battle of Cambrai ("On This Day", November 24) you state that the impetus of the breakthrough by the tanks was later lost through heavy rain and the strength of the German counter-attack.

Rain was certainly a contributory factor and the German counter-attack more or less wiped out the British gains, but a fundamental reason for the ability of the Germans to mount such a successful counter-attack was the failure of the British to exploit the success of their breakthrough without a large reserve of tanks.

The cavalry, whose corps HQ was six miles behind the line, made no exploitation, nor could it successfully have done so in face of rifle and machine-gun fire. The restoration of operational mobility to the European battlefield had to await the development of tactics based on infiltration and fire and movement (first by the Germans in 1918) and the production in greater numbers of faster and more reliable armoured fighting vehicles in the 1930s and 40s.

Major-General J. F. C. "Boney" Fuller, whose biographer I am, devised the tank tactics of Cambrai, but he never intended it to be more than a raid. Some months later, in his "Plan 1919", he recommended a way of using tanks to defeat the Germans by breaking through the line and attacking the rear, but even this

From Dr John A. J. Macleod
Sir, Your leader, "To hasten death", uses the phrase "to strive officiously to keep alive" and suggests advances in medical science as a reason for it.

There are other pressures, particularly on the junior hospital doctor, to initiate further treatment, and these arise from his training, peers, seniors, and relatives "wanting everything possible to be done". However, the real wish and the requirement is that "appropriate treatment" be followed.

We often read of court actions in the USA over decisions to discontinue treatment — i.e., on a ventilator — but these will become less common as use of the "living will" extends across the USA. This is a document that a person may sign stating limits beyond which he does not wish any treatment to extend.

The "living will" is already reducing the occurrence of the ethical dilemma that may face a junior doctor in hospital at night having to decide to treat or not to treat. On a visit to the USA in 1985 I was privileged to be invited to sit with a lady while her husband peacefully and gently died in a busy hospital with all sorts of technical equipment available.

The "living will" is not involving the doctor or nurse in any positive act, so is clearly exempt from any controversy over euthanasia.

Yours faithfully, JOHN MACLEOD, Tigh-na-Herrad, Lochmaddy, Isle of North Uist, Western Isles.

From Mr Simon Milner
Sir, Your leading article on euthanasia concludes with the alarming assertion that society has the right to set a standard of life's value.

On behalf of those millions throughout history whose lives have been deemed worthless, and extinguished, by societies assuming that right, I demur. Yours faithfully, SIMON MILNER, 17 Salisbury House, 23 Holloway Road, N5.

would have failed unless fast and reliable tanks had been produced in vast numbers.

Cambrai was certainly a notable battle, but, value apart, it was principally noteworthy because the new technology achieved virtually nothing of any lasting advantage and could not have done, given the size and nature of the forces involved.

Yours faithfully, TONY TRYTHALL, Managing Director, Brassey's Defence Publishers Ltd, 24 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.

The computer age

From Miss Elizabeth M. Ward
Sir, Yesterday's Sunday Times (November 30) showed a deserted Stock Exchange floor, and reported Mr Maxwell's diversification in newspaper printing, to be carried out at depots around the UK. Today's paper (December 1) extols the virtue of company computers in Scotland.

Anomaly in law of treasure trove

From Dr John Wood and Miss Clare Conybeare
Sir, The common law of treasure trove, recently invoked in the case of a discovery of Iron Age silver coins, contains an important anomaly.

It is a principle of law that no one should be able to profit from an illegal act, let alone be rewarded for it by the Treasury — yet that, it appears, is exactly what is about to take place.

The hoard, found at Donhead St Mary in Wiltshire, was declared treasure trove in February. The finder was prosecuted and convicted in September, under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, for knowingly using a metal detector in a protected place without permission and for removing objects of archaeological interest therefrom. A fine of £100 was imposed and there was no appeal from the verdict.

The Treasure Trove Reviewing Committee, a department of the Treasury, having awaited the outcome of the prosecution and apparently in full knowledge of the facts, has now offered an *ex gratia* payment of £2,000 to the finder for declaring the treasure trove. Who says that crime doesn't pay?

Surely it is time that the legislation was revised to avoid a repetition of this regrettable situation and to offer a greater measure of protection to all portable antiquities, which form such a vital part of our heritage? Yours faithfully, JOHN E. WOOD, President, CLARE CONYBEARE, Secretary, Group 12 (Wessex), Council for British Archaeology, The King's House, 65 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire, December 1.

Barclays pull-out

From Mr George Gardiner, MP for Reigate (Conservative)
Sir, Your leading article (November 25) questioning the "virtue" of Barclays' decision to withdraw from South Africa let the bank off comparatively lightly.

As one who has banked with Barclays for some 35 years I felt some pride, on visits to South Africa, in the constructive role Barclays was playing in training black South Africans up to take positions at managerial levels, and in its contribution to the steady dismantling of apartheid. This makes all the sharper the shame now felt over the blow the bank has delivered to all those, black as well as white, who work for peaceful change in that country.

This shame was intensified on reading Sir Timothy Bevan's acknowledgement that student protests aimed at Barclays in Britain contributed towards this shameful decision. This can only encourage student boycott campaigns right across the board.

I have no wish to bank with a company that is a push-over to pressure from the most militant elements in our student unions, and have accordingly decided to transfer my accounts. Others who feel similarly should do the same. Yours etc, GEORGE GARDINER, House of Commons, November 28.

Tax by head-count

From Mr W. T. McLeod
Sir, A report in today's Times (November 28) states that the Government is keen to stress that the new community charge proposed as a replacement for domestic rates in Scotland is not a poll tax in the sense that there will be no direct connection between paying the charge and voting.

May I comment on this mistaken view of the meaning of poll tax which seems now to be widely accepted by politicians of all parties and by political commentators? The only thing a poll tax has in common with voting is that both are based on a counting of heads — Middle English *poll*, head (Scots and Northern English *pow*). The same word is seen on the polling of cattle and pollarding of trees.

A poll tax is a tax levied per head (of adult) population, and the term of the related *poll-money* has been so used since the 16th century up till the blossoming of the present misunderstanding. One can see why the opposition parties might wish to foster this new meaning, but it is not surprising that the Government and its supporters should help them to do so. Yours faithfully, WILLIAM T. McLEOD, Managing Editor, English Dictionaries, William Collins Sons and Co., Westerhill Road, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow, November 28.

Size of councils

From the Leader of Tower Hamlets Council
Sir, I was most surprised to see you print, without comment, the letter from Elvind Gilje (December 4) which holds Richmond as the only London borough under Alliance control.

You, Sir, of all people, should know that the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, within which your own establishment now sits, is also enjoying an Alliance administration. Yours faithfully, E. FLOUNDERS, Leader of the Council, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Town Hall, Patriot Square, E2.

ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 6 1933

Prohibition throughout the United States had been in force for nearly 14 years (see "On This Day", January 17, 1985). It forbade the manufacture or sale of any drink containing more than 0.5 per cent alcohol. According to the *Encyclopedia Americana*, the country had by the late 1920s more "speakeasies" selling illicit drinks than it had ever had saloons.

PROHIBITION DEAD PROBLEMS TO COME

From Our Own Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Dec 5
Nearly 14 years ago, on the eve of January 16, 1933, the Anti-Saloon League announced to the United States that after one minute after midnight "a new nation will be born." To-day, as the clock hands climb toward the hour at which, by the deciding vote of Utah, the Eighteenth Amendment will be repealed, this new nation turns away with thanksgiving from its experiment in national regeneration.

A great deal of exuberance and a good deal of excess are to be expected. Leaders of the dry faction, indeed, now predict that an era of lawbreaking will set in so serious that the country "will turn back prohibition." But only in 19 of the 48 States will it be legal to buy what is called hard liquor — Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington and Wisconsin. In New Jersey, familiarly described as "wet as the Atlantic", a Liquor Control Bill has been passed which the Governor refuses to sign on the ground that it is unconstitutional. Faza (Federal Alcohol Control Administration), the newest of the great family of bureaus known by their initials, has been housed here and is at work. Not the least of its innumerable problems is the legalizing of the inestimable quantity of "hooch" and smuggled liquor hidden in every section of the country from which the Government might gain considerable revenue. There have been offers from the owners of this liquor to make payment, but there intervene certain regulations of the internal revenue and Customs laws which have not been repealed, and a way to remove these obstacles in favour of the liquor holder or dealer who wants to turn over a new leaf has yet to be found.

VESSELS WAITING

Then there are the countless vessels hovering off the coast beyond the hazy horizon line which had hoped to ride in and discharge when repeal became a fact, but which find that new regulations oblige them to show clearance papers from their port of origin to a specific American port of arrival. It is expected that most of them will "run for it", and that an epidemic of smuggling on the grand scale will last the Coast Guard beyond its present obligation from the organic law of the country of any provision written into it has been made, and the Twenty-first Amendment to the Constitution will appear as follows:

Section 1. The Eighteenth Article of the Amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed. But the Eighteenth Amendment lighted more than repeal can extinguish.

UTAH'S VOTE

NEW YORK CELEBRATIONS

From Our Own Correspondent
NEW YORK, Dec 5
Utah, the thirty-sixth State, ratified the Amendment for repeal of Prohibition at 5.33 p.m. New York time [10.33 G.M.T.] this evening . . .

Some 3,000 hotels, restaurants, and clubs in New York made elaborate preparations for quenching the thirst of their expected patrons with lawful liquor. Liquor in all conceivable forms is still flowing into the city in great volume. The majestic, which will dock here late to-day, is bringing a further 300 cases of Scotch whisky and 6,000 cases of champagne and other wines.

The Police Commissioner announced this afternoon that a relentless war will be waged against speakeasies and all unlicensed liquor vendors immediately repeal becomes effective . . .

Breath of summer

From Mrs Elizabeth D. Walker
Sir, Today I have picked a summer posy consisting of rose, periwinkle, Welsh poppy, wild poppy, marguerite, cornflower, veronica, marigold, sweet William, border pink daisy, and some blossom from the Glastonbury thorn, not due out till Twelfth Night. Yours faithfully, ELIZABETH D. WALKER, Nunney Court, Frome, Somerset, December 1.



He married, in 1957, Dorothy Gillian Fry, who survives him with their two sons and two daughters.

79, and to create the new combined firm of Thorn-EMI, even though the merger created problems of assimilation which he did not altogether master.

1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Lichtenthal and Whistler (1973). The total chlorophyll content was determined by the method of Arar and Cook (1977). The carotenoid content was determined by the method of Lichtenthal and Whistler (1973). The total carotenoid content was determined by the method of Arar and Cook (1977). The total protein content was determined by the method of Lowry et al. (1951). The total lipid content was determined by the method of Bligh and Dyer (1959). The total carbohydrate content was determined by the method of Dubois and Gilles (1950). The total nucleic acid content was determined by the method of Burton (1956). The total ash content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total moisture content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total dry matter content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total organic acid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total alkaloid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total saponin content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total tannin content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total flavonoid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total phenol content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total terpenoid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total steroid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total glycoside content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total alkaloid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total saponin content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total tannin content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total flavonoid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total phenol content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total terpenoid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total steroid content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970). The total glycoside content was determined by the method of AOAC (1970).

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share	1268.5 (+2.3)
FT-SE 100	1613.5 (+3.4)
Bargains	29142 (24916)
USM (Datastream)	128.38 (-0.38)
THE POUND	
US Dollar	1.4290 (-0.0010)
W German mark	2.8523 (+0.0052)
Trade-weighted	68.1 (+0.1)

Freshbake buys Wold

Freshbake Foods, the manufacturer and distributor of frozen foods, is to acquire Wold, one of the biggest frozen green vegetable processors, in an agreed £8.6 million takeover.

The terms are one new Freshbake ordinary share for three Wold shares.

Freshbake has announced a one-for-four rights issue at 100p to raise £10.4 million net of expenses.

The directors of Wold and other major shareholders who hold a total of 50.9 per cent of the equity have given irrevocable undertakings to accept the offer.

Nobo listing

Nobo Group, the visual aids company, is seeking a full Stock Exchange listing after the placing of 3.25 million shares at 150p by Barclays de Zoete Wedd. The placing will raise £4.9 million before expenses. The market capitalization of the enlarged group will be £15.2 million.

Fry for USM

Johnson Fry, the licensed dealer, is coming to the unlisted securities market via a placing of 1.181,250 shares at 150p each with dealings expected to begin next Friday.

Computer deal

Atlantic Computers is to acquire ICA Holdings, a privately-owned computer and financial services group with headquarters in the Netherlands. The deal will create Europe's largest computer distribution group.

Traders mourn

Trading on the Hong Kong stock market was suspended yesterday as a mark of respect for the Governor, Sir Edward Youde, who died in Peking.

Broker deal

Swiss Bank Corporation, the second largest Swiss bank, announced yesterday that it is negotiating with Royal Trust Company of Canada to buy Savory Millin, the London stockbroker.

Few accept

Gulf Resources' £750 million takeover offer for IC Gas, best known for its Calor Gas interests, reached its first closing date with acceptances for only 3.6 per cent of IC's equity.

Lombard dips

Lombard North Central, the finance house subsidiary of National Westminster Bank, reported pre-tax profits of £83.2 million for the year.

MARKET SUMMARY

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STOCK MARKETS

New York	1929.27 (-10.41)
Dow Jones	1929.27 (-10.41)
Nikkei Dow	18637.47 (+13.52)
Hong Kong	2400.72 (-29.80)
Hang Seng	285.0 (same)
Amsterdam	1420.3 (+9.2)
Sydney	2072.7 (+3.8)
Frankfurt	4078.93 (+5.61)
Brussels	407.9 (+3.4)
Paris CAC	562.20 (-2.5)
Zurich	51.64 (-0.43)
London: FT	1613.5 (+3.4)
FT 100	1613.5 (+3.4)
FT 30	1268.5 (+2.3)
FT 100	1613.5 (+3.4)
FT 30	1268.5 (+2.3)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base	11%
3-month Interbank	11 1/4-11 1/2%
3-month eligible bills	10 1/4-10 1/2%
US: Prime Rate	7 1/2%
Federal Funds	5 1/4-5 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.44-5.42%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
\$1.4290	\$1.4290
DM2.8523	DM2.8523
FF9.3314	FF9.3314
Yen110.55	Yen110.55
Yen231.64	Yen231.64
Index 68.1	Index 68.1
ECU 20.72949	ECU 20.72949

Takeover decisions may be reviewed

Panel subject to the courts

By Colin Narborough

The Court of Appeal yesterday issued its long-awaited judgment on the authority of the City Takeover Panel, ruling that the self-regulatory council's decisions were subject to review by the courts.

The challenge to the Panel's freedom from court interference has been seen as a potential threat to its ability to act as a flexible arbiter in takeover battles and raised the spectre of endless legal appeals against its rulings.

The case was the spin-off from the takeover battle for McCorquodale, the specialist printing group, in which the Panel rejected an appeal by a management buy-out team against the go-ahead given for the rival bidder, Norton Opax.

At the end of a three-day hearing, Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, in his 46-page judgment, found that the Panel performed a public duty in its regulation of the financial markets and that it would be unthinkable to allow it to be "cocooned" from the attention of the courts.

But, undoubtedly to the Panel's relief, he said that High Court intervention in Panel decisions would be "de minimis" - limited to pronouncements rather than imposing sanctions.

Mr John Walker-Horwath, director-general of the Panel, was unable to respond immediately to the ruling, saying that time was needed to consider the detailed document. The full 11-member panel will meet next Friday.

The heavily qualified judgment subjecting the Panel to the law authorities could be seen as an endorsement of the status quo, despite rejecting the court's right to review its decisions during the case.

The ruling says that the courts can intervene to quash a decision when the Panel is regarded as behaving irrationally, or offends against the principles of natural justice.

Sir John anticipated a "workable and valuable partnership between the court and the Panel in the public interest". And the court's relationship with the Panel would be "historic" rather than contemporaneous and aims at preventing errors from being repeated.

The judgment, foreseen as the possible deathknell of self-regulation - the guiding principle for the Government's system of self-regulation of the deregulated British markets - was seen by many as the inevitable arrival in Britain of increased litigation as a way to resolve corporate battles.

Lamont to break the Delaware Link

By Our City Staff

A gaping hole in the Exchequer's revenue net - the "Delaware Link" that allows companies resident in two countries to exploit differences in tax laws - will be stitched up from April, Mr Norman Lamont, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said yesterday.

The loophole, estimated to cost Britain £200 million in lost taxes every year, has been increasingly employed by smaller firms after a decade of being mainly a tax-saving tool of big multinationals.

It is used by companies operating on both sides of the Atlantic, with dual residence in Britain and the United States, to obtain the maximum tax benefit arising from the different definitions of residence for tax purposes.

In Britain, a company's residence is where it exercises management and control. In the US, it is its place of incorporation. Delaware has been the most popular state for this kind of deal, hence the loophole's nickname.

Thanks to an Anglo-US treaty, dual residence allows a company to avoid double taxation on income.

But, more importantly, it permits businesses to reduce taxable income by twice deducting interest payments on borrowings - once in the US and once in Britain.

In a written parliamentary answer, Mr Lamont said the Government proposed to restrict group relief now available on losses made by dual resident firms.

Apart from "genuine trading companies", dual residents will be unable to surrender losses to other members of the British group.

The new rules will apply to companies whose main function is to borrow, purchase or hold shares in a member of a multinational group. A consultative document, published yesterday, seeks responses by next month.

ConsGold share deal inquiry

By Lawrence Lever

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, announced yesterday that he is appointing inspectors to investigate purchases of shares in Consolidated Gold Fields.

The investigation, requested by ConsGold, concerns a 4.9 per cent stake in the company acquired by Barrick Resources, a United States gold mining company based in Toronto, Canada.

ConsGold, in a statement, said that the company had asked the DTI to investigate "the circumstances surrounding the build up" of the Barrick stake and "the difficulties experienced in ascertaining the ownership of the stake".

Mr Rodolph Agnew, chairman of ConsGold, has been concerned for weeks about purchases of shares by non-UK companies. The shares - amounting to 4.9 per cent of the company - were bought by James Capel on behalf of Barrick.

Anglo American, the South African mining conglomerate, already holds a 28 per cent stake in ConsGold through its Minorco associate, and there has been frequent speculation that it might launch a full-scale bid.

The investigation will be under section 442 of the Companies Act, 1985, which gives the DTI powers to investigate the ownership of shares in a company, including powers to determine whether there are concert party arrangements.

However, unlike the Guinness investigation announced on Monday, there is no suggestion of misconduct.

US buy for Bemrose

Bemrose Corporation, the security, printing and packaging group, is expanding its American operations through a joint venture with Yattenden Investment Trust, a private British newspaper publishing and retail company.

The joint venture is acquiring two American businesses for \$20.2 million (£14.1 million): Dot Publishing of Indiana, which publishes religious calendars, books, diaries and cards, and the Janesville Group, a Wisconsin manufacturer of pens, tools and desk equipment.

Bemrose is investing £5.7 million in the joint venture, of which £1 million is cash. The rest will be raised through the issue of 2.66 million new shares, 60 per cent of which will be taken by Yattenden.

Hopes collapse of fuelling world recovery

Japan runs out of steam

From a Correspondent, Tokyo

Any hopes that Japan will soon be able to pull the world economy out of trouble through dynamic internal growth collapsed yesterday after the Japanese government announced in Tokyo that third quarter gross national product had slowed even further.

A 0.6 per cent rise in GNP for the three months to September 30 effectively destroyed the government's fond conceit that it can achieve a healthy 4 per cent growth for the fiscal year ending on March 31.

The economic planning agency, which announced the news, said the slow growth was primarily because of the yen's rapid rise over the past year. This has slashed export performance by making Japanese goods expensive abroad, and has seriously affected leading manufacturing companies.

The yen has risen by more than 40 per cent against the dollar, closing in Tokyo yesterday at 162.8.

The United States still nurtures the idea that both Japan and West Germany can take over the role of engines for world growth.

But West Germany has rejected the idea, and this week it also announced that its third-quarter growth was a disappointing 1 per cent. Japan, unhappy at offending US sensibilities, has skirted the question but now has a good alibi for ducking out of the role.

Mr Hirohiko Otake, deputy head of the EPA, told reporters that the government would soon review its 4 per cent target. EPA officials were saying privately that the figure would now be almost impossible to reach.

The July-September figures certainly show exports declining, knocking 0.3 of a percentage point off growth. But domestic demand was disappointing, too, growing by only 0.9 of a point.

A big surge of gold imports in the April-June quarter for the minting of gold coins for Emperor Hirohito's 60th anniversary distorted the third-quarter figures, but the outlook is still poor.

The government tax council, in an attempt to raise demand, announced a package of tax-cutting measures yesterday.

Still 7% of Americans out of work

Washington (Reuters) - The rate of unemployment in the United States remained unchanged at 7 per cent for the third successive month, the Department of Labour reported yesterday.

Financial analysts said that the data and other economic figures suggested that the pace of the economy was still slow and that central bank action to lower interest rates was possible.

The number of jobs outside the agricultural sector rose in November by 249,000 to a total of 101.07 million, but nearly all the gains were in service industries.

Goods-producing jobs increased by 40,000 while the number of jobs in manufacturing industry increased by 35,000 to 19.2 million.

The department said that employment in building was down in November because of seasonal fluctuations.

Khoo makes £130m on Exco

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, the Singapore businessman who has financial problems in the Far East, yesterday reversed his promise to accept British & Commonwealth Shipping shares for his Exco International stake.

Instead, he will take £130 million in cash from the sale of his Exco shares and will not be taking a seat on the B&C board.

The move means B&C will have only 48 per cent of Exco's shares instead of the 53 per cent it had expected when its prospectus was published next week because part of Tan Sri Khoo's stake is held under security and not immediately available.

"This will in no way jeopardize the takeover," a spokesman said.

The move appears to confirm that Tan Sri Khoo has a serious need for cash. It is also believed that he is trying to sell his 6 per cent stake in Standard Chartered Bank.

Tan Sri Khoo's son was arrested more than a week ago by the Brunei authorities for alleged fraud in connection with the National Bank of Brunei. Tan Sri Khoo's family owns 90 per cent of the bank, which is now under the supervision of the Brunei authorities, and most of the bank's loans were made to his family's interests.

In its offer for Exco, B&C secured an undertaking from Tan Sri Khoo that he would accept the company's shares in return for his 67.8 million Exco shares. He has now been released from this promise, and the 48.8 million shares are being placed with four institutions at 265p.

The institutions shares were



Engineering a win: Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of Turner & Newall, triumphantly yesterday

AE succumbs to Sir Francis

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

But T & N, chaired by Sir Francis Tombs, claimed yesterday that it "would be able to obtain most of the tax benefits expected from the acquisition so long as AE is a 51 per cent subsidiary". It is expected to save £5 million rather than the hoped-for £6 million.

A stake above 25 per cent could also give Mr Maxwell nuisance value in blocking big changes in AE's structure or finances requiring a 75 per cent majority at an extraordinary meeting.

T & N is precluded from offering Pergamon and Hollis a higher price for a year under City Takeover Panel rules, but Mr Maxwell could use the stake as a lever to do deals with T & N.

Mr Peter Byrom of NM Rothschild, T & N's adviser, said: "Mr Maxwell said he entered the battle to help British manufacturing industry and we feel sure he will be consistent in this."

AE argued throughout that the T & N takeover had no logic and might damage its research and development effort as Turner would have to maximize short-term profits to recoup the dilution to its earnings resulting from the bid terms.

But Sir Francis emphasized that Turner now wanted to explore the opportunities for the development of the products of both companies.



Oppenheimer

Latest performance

Two years to 1st December

Trust	Percentage increase in value	Position in sector
European	+166.0	3rd
Pacific	+80.8	6th
Worldwide Recovery	+76.8	6th
International	+76.8	7th
UK	+72.0	21st
Income & Growth	+62.3	7th
Practical	+60.0	1st
Japan	+52.1	29th
High Income	+49.9	8th
American	+31.0	17th

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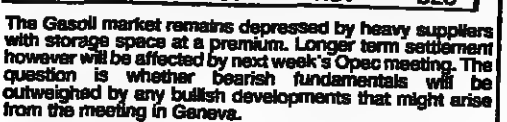
Oppenheimer Fund Management Ltd

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FINANCIAL TRUSTS



	Quiet	Apr Jun Aug
PR SMALL		
	376.00-377.00	
Months -	386.00-387.00	
	Ne	Pig
	Quiet	Liv C P
ENTUM		
	787.50-788.50	Month
Months -	800.50-801.00	Feb
	10350	Jun
	Steady	
L		
	2630-2635	
Months -	2690-2695	LONDON C
	50	E p
	Slightly	

96.0	96.0
98.2	98.2
96.0	96.0
Vol: 0	
Most vol: 0	
Little Contract per kilo	
Open	Close
96.9	96.8
101.5	101.5
101.5	101.5
Vol: 0	

Use official prices
Official Turnover figures
Prices in £ per metric tonne
Silver in peace per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolf & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER GRADE A
Cash **837.50-838.00**
Three Months **855.50-856.00**
Vol. **200**

ME
Aver
repr

GB: C
(+0.27)

FAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 6
Cattle, 92.96p per kg liv
Month
Jan
Mar
May
Jul
Sep
Nov
Vol: Wheat ...

Wheat	Barley
Close	Close
110.05	111.45
113.20	113.70
115.25	114.80
117.10	-----
101.40	100.85
103.55	103.20
-----	343

STANDARD CATHOODS
Cash 901.00-908.00
Three Months 929.00-931.00
Vol NR
Tone Idle

up 210.09p per kg*
 5) 74.02p per kg lw
 head carcass weight
 and Wales:
 nos. up 16.9% ave.
 2.73p(+0.47)
 nos. up 23.4% ave.

Open	Close
110.30	111.00
158.50	160.30
177.50	179.30

LEAD
Cash 364.00-365.00
Three Months . 330.00-330.50
Wol 1300
Tons Steady

ZINC HIGH GRADE
Cash 641.00-642.00

nd: -
nos. up 33.9 %, ave.
4.92p(-1.44)
nos. down 8.7 %, ave.
4.63p(+2.17)

87.50 87.50
Vol: 554

FFEX
R Futures Ltd Dry
n (\$10 per point)
y/Low- Close

Three months . . . 541.00-541.50
Vol 3350
Tone Barely Steady

SILVER LARGE
Cash 376.00-377.00
Three Months . . . 386.00-387.00
Vol Nil

LONG
Live P
Month
Feb

Jan 87	673
Apr 87	687
Jul 87	695
Oct 87	705

Vol: 173 lots.
Spot market c
Dry cargo ind

0-870.0	687.5
0-893.0	694.0
0-902.5	604.0
0-703.0	704.0

Open Intst: 1858
commentary:
acc

Portfolio
—Gold—

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money. If you are a winner, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Halston (James)	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Falvey	Motor, Aircraft	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Colins (Wm)	Newspaper, Pub	
5	Boys	Breweries	
6	Brenner	Draper, Stores	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrial A-D	
8	Baker Perkins	Industrial A-D	
9	Allied Lyons	Breweries	
10	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
11	Amber Ind	Industrial A-D	
12	Casings	Industrial A-D	
13	Christies Int	Industrial A-D	
14	Lays	Banks, Discount	
15	San Life	Insurance	
16	Plessey	Electronics	
17	Met Assn Bt	Banks, Discount	
18	Brown (Matthew)	Breweries	
19	Joseph (Leopold)	Banks, Discount	
20	Barclays	Banks, Discount	
21	Rutherford	Building, Roads	
22	Esam	Draper, Stores	
23	Berkeley Gp	Building, Roads	
24	Devenish (I A)	Breweries	
25	Utd Scientific	Electronics	
26	Hewson-Stuart	Building, Roads	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Neavort Benson	Banks, Discount	
29	Moss Bros	Draper, Stores	
30	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
31	Lucas	Motor, Aircraft	
32	San Alliance	Insurance	
33	Sedgwick Gp	Insurance	
34	Ladbrooke	Hotels, Caterers	
35	Unicom	Banks, Discount	
36	Leidie	Insurance	
37	Trusthouse Forte	Hotels, Caterers	
38	Reliance	Insurance	
39	Lon Unit Inv	Insurance	
40	Western Bros	Building, Roads	
41	Countrywide	Building, Roads	
42	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
43	Bank of Scotland	Banks, Discount	
44	Blue Circle	Building, Roads	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £3,000 in today's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1986 High Low Range Price Change % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Halston (James)	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Falvey	Motor, Aircraft	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Colins (Wm)	Newspaper, Pub	
5	Boys	Breweries	
6	Brenner	Draper, Stores	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrial A-D	
8	Baker Perkins	Industrial A-D	
9	Allied Lyons	Breweries	
10	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
11	Amber Ind	Industrial A-D	
12	Casings	Industrial A-D	
13	Christies Int	Industrial A-D	
14	Lays	Banks, Discount	
15	San Life	Insurance	
16	Plessey	Electronics	
17	Met Assn Bt	Banks, Discount	
18	Brown (Matthew)	Breweries	
19	Joseph (Leopold)	Banks, Discount	
20	Barclays	Banks, Discount	
21	Rutherford	Building, Roads	
22	Esam	Draper, Stores	
23	Berkeley Gp	Building, Roads	
24	Devenish (I A)	Breweries	
25	Utd Scientific	Electronics	
26	Hewson-Stuart	Building, Roads	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Neavort Benson	Banks, Discount	
29	Moss Bros	Draper, Stores	
30	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
31	Lucas	Motor, Aircraft	
32	San Alliance	Insurance	
33	Sedgwick Gp	Insurance	
34	Ladbrooke	Hotels, Caterers	
35	Unicom	Banks, Discount	
36	Leidie	Insurance	
37	Trusthouse Forte	Hotels, Caterers	
38	Reliance	Insurance	
39	Lon Unit Inv	Insurance	
40	Western Bros	Building, Roads	
41	Countrywide	Building, Roads	
42	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
43	Bank of Scotland	Banks, Discount	
44	Blue Circle	Building, Roads	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Halston (James)	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Falvey	Motor, Aircraft	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Colins (Wm)	Newspaper, Pub	
5	Boys	Breweries	
6	Brenner	Draper, Stores	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrial A-D	
8	Baker Perkins	Industrial A-D	
9	Allied Lyons	Breweries	
10	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
11	Amber Ind	Industrial A-D	
12	Casings	Industrial A-D	
13	Christies Int	Industrial A-D	
14	Lays	Banks, Discount	
15	San Life	Insurance	
16	Plessey	Electronics	
17	Met Assn Bt	Banks, Discount	
18	Brown (Matthew)	Breweries	
19	Joseph (Leopold)	Banks, Discount	
20	Barclays	Banks, Discount	
21	Rutherford	Building, Roads	
22	Esam	Draper, Stores	
23	Berkeley Gp	Building, Roads	
24	Devenish (I A)	Breweries	
25	Utd Scientific	Electronics	
26	Hewson-Stuart	Building, Roads	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Neavort Benson	Banks, Discount	
29	Moss Bros	Draper, Stores	
30	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
31	Lucas	Motor, Aircraft	
32	San Alliance	Insurance	
33	Sedgwick Gp	Insurance	
34	Ladbrooke	Hotels, Caterers	
35	Unicom	Banks, Discount	
36	Leidie	Insurance	
37	Trusthouse Forte	Hotels, Caterers	
38	Reliance	Insurance	
39	Lon Unit Inv	Insurance	
40	Western Bros	Building, Roads	
41	Countrywide	Building, Roads	
42	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
43	Bank of Scotland	Banks, Discount	
44	Blue Circle	Building, Roads	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Halston (James)	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Falvey	Motor, Aircraft	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Colins (Wm)	Newspaper, Pub	
5	Boys	Breweries	
6	Brenner	Draper, Stores	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrial A-D	
8	Baker Perkins	Industrial A-D	
9	Allied Lyons	Breweries	
10	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
11	Amber Ind	Industrial A-D	
12	Casings	Industrial A-D	
13	Christies Int	Industrial A-D	
14	Lays	Banks, Discount	
15	San Life	Insurance	
16	Plessey	Electronics	
17	Met Assn Bt	Banks, Discount	
18	Brown (Matthew)	Breweries	
19	Joseph (Leopold)	Banks, Discount	
20	Barclays	Banks, Discount	
21	Rutherford	Building, Roads	
22	Esam	Draper, Stores	
23	Berkeley Gp	Building, Roads	
24	Devenish (I A)	Breweries	
25	Utd Scientific	Electronics	
26	Hewson-Stuart	Building, Roads	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Neavort Benson	Banks, Discount	
29	Moss Bros	Draper, Stores	
30	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
31	Lucas	Motor, Aircraft	
32	San Alliance	Insurance	
33	Sedgwick Gp	Insurance	
34	Ladbrooke	Hotels, Caterers	
35	Unicom	Banks, Discount	
36	Leidie	Insurance	
37	Trusthouse Forte	Hotels, Caterers	
38	Reliance	Insurance	
39	Lon Unit Inv	Insurance	
40	Western Bros	Building, Roads	
41	Countrywide	Building, Roads	
42	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
43	Bank of Scotland	Banks, Discount	
44	Blue Circle	Building, Roads	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

UNDATED

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Halston (James)	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Falvey	Motor, Aircraft	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Colins (Wm)	Newspaper, Pub	
5	Boys	Breweries	
6	Brenner	Draper, Stores	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrial A-D	
8	Baker Perkins	Industrial A-D	
9	Allied Lyons	Breweries	
10	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
11	Amber Ind	Industrial A-D	
12	Casings	Industrial A-D	
13	Christies Int	Industrial A-D	
14	Lays	Banks, Discount	
15	San Life	Insurance	
16	Plessey	Electronics	
17	Met Assn Bt	Banks, Discount	
18	Brown (Matthew)	Breweries	
19	Joseph (Leopold)	Banks, Discount	
20	Barclays	Banks, Discount	
21	Rutherford	Building, Roads	
22	Esam	Draper, Stores	
23	Berkeley Gp	Building, Roads	
24	Devenish (I A)	Breweries	
25	Utd Scientific	Electronics	
26	Hewson-Stuart	Building, Roads	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Neavort Benson	Banks, Discount	
29	Moss Bros	Draper, Stores	
30	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
31	Lucas	Motor, Aircraft	
32	San Alliance	Insurance	
33	Sedgwick Gp	Insurance	
34	Ladbrooke	Hotels, Caterers	
35	Unicom	Banks, Discount	
36	Leidie	Insurance	
37	Trusthouse Forte	Hotels, Caterers	
38	Reliance	Insurance	
39	Lon Unit Inv	Insurance	
40	Western Bros	Building, Roads	
41	Countrywide	Building, Roads	
42	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
43	Bank of Scotland	Banks, Discount	
44	Blue Circle	Building, Roads	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

INDEX-LINKED

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Halston (James)	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Falvey	Motor, Aircraft	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Colins (Wm)	Newspaper, Pub	
5	Boys	Breweries	
6	Brenner	Draper, Stores	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrial A-D	
8	Baker Perkins	Industrial A-D	
9	Allied Lyons	Breweries	
10	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
11	Amber Ind	Industrial A-D	
12	Casings	Industrial A-D	
13	Christies Int	Industrial A-D	
14	Lays	Banks, Discount	
15	San Life	Insurance	
16	Plessey	Electronics	
17	Met Assn Bt	Banks, Discount	
18	Brown (Matthew)	Breweries	
19	Joseph (Leopold)	Banks, Discount	
20	Barclays	Banks, Discount	
21	Rutherford	Building, Roads	
22	Esam	Draper, Stores	
23	Berkeley Gp	Building, Roads	
24	Devenish (I A)	Breweries	
25	Utd Scientific	Electronics	
26	Hewson-Stuart	Building, Roads	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Neavort Benson	Banks, Discount	
29	Moss Bros	Draper, Stores	
30	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
31	Lucas	Motor, Aircraft	
32	San Alliance	Insurance	
33	Sedgwick Gp	Insurance	
34	Ladbrooke	Hotels, Caterers	
35	Unicom	Banks, Discount	
36	Leidie	Insurance	
37	Trusthouse Forte	Hotels, Caterers	
38	Reliance	Insurance	
39	Lon Unit Inv	Insurance	
40	Western Bros	Building, Roads	
41	Countrywide	Building, Roads	
42	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
43	Bank of Scotland	Banks, Discount	
44	Blue Circle	Building, Roads	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Halston (James)	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Falvey	Motor, Aircraft	
3	Guinness	Breweries	
4	Colins (Wm)	Newspaper, Pub	
5	Boys	Breweries	
6	Brenner	Draper, Stores	
7	Blue Arrow	Industrial A-D	
8	Baker Perkins	Industrial A-D	
9	Allied Lyons	Breweries	
10	Jarvis (J) & Sons	Building, Roads	
11	Amber Ind	Industrial A-D	
12	Casings	Industrial A-D	
13	Christies Int	Industrial A-D	
14	Lays	Banks, Discount	
15	San Life	Insurance	
16	Plessey	Electronics	
17	Met Assn Bt	Banks, Discount	
18	Brown (Matthew)	Breweries	
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20	Barclays	Banks, Discount	
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23	Berkeley Gp	Building, Roads	
24	Devenish (I A)	Breweries	
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26	Hewson-Stuart	Building, Roads	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Neavort Benson	Banks, Discount	
29	Moss Bros	Draper, Stores	
30	Westland	Motor, Aircraft	
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32	San Alliance	Insurance	
33	Sedgwick Gp	Insurance	
34	Ladbrooke	Hotels, Caterers	
35	Unicom	Banks, Discount	
36	Leidie	Insurance	
37	Trusthouse Forte	Hotels, Caterers	
38	Reliance	Insurance	
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40	Western Bros	Building, Roads	
41	Countrywide	Building, Roads	
42	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
43	Bank of Scotland	Banks, Discount	
44	Blue Circle	Building, Roads	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Quiet end to account

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on November 24. Dealings ended yesterday. £Contango day Monday. Settlement day December 15.
£Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 3pm. Yield, change and P/E are calculated on the middle price

1986		Company	Price		Change	Vol	P/E
High	Low		Bid	Offer			
122	80	Citizen	170	-	880	5.0	8.4
448	255	Provident	208	260	158.63	6.5	18.1
138	53	Re Sim	26	33	+4	-	-
138	115	Northside 43 Int	226	237	-	7.1	8.5
429	280	Ray, Bels & Saut	215	219	-9	15.4	14.1
6	325	Storied	235	239	-3	22.7	13.7
684	419	Storied Corp	275	279	+13	45.4	1.0
818	613	Uran	655	665	-2	50.0	0.0
75	45	Waste Flow	75	-	+1	-	-

Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

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N M ROTHSCHILD ASSET MANAGEMENT

Stars with go in show and business

"What do you want if you don't want money?" said Adam Faith as he embarked on the metamorphosis from £12-a-week teenager to £100,000-a-year pop idol. Believe it or not, that was more than a quarter of a century ago.

Pop stars have always had to accept the risk of ephemeral fame but, back in 1959, who would have put money on Adam Faith and his contemporaries, Cliff Richard and Tommy Steele, still being household names in 1986 long after memories of Elvis, the Beatles and punk have begun to fade?

The fact that these celebrities have survived and prospered and weathered the changing fashions of a notoriously fickle industry demonstrates that their business nous is as strong as their show business clout.

This week Adam Faith showed the business side of his many abilities with the launch of Faith, a London-based financial management company for celebrities.

Now, at 46, Adam Faith looks the very epitome of the successful entrepreneur — the Gucci shoes, Cartier wristwatch and Christian Dior silk tie are all fitting accessories for the double-breasted designer blazer.

There is almost certainly a Pterix six-pack in the back of the Porsche.

This is not what one expects of a man who used to succeed in making teenage girls tremble at the knees, but Adam Faith has clearly come to terms with the changing role that middle age requires, even down to tending off a comment on his gold-rimmed spectacles with the explanation that the eyes begin to go at about 43.

Although Adam Faith is chairman of the company Faith and has a one-third equity stake, it is backed by stockbroker firm Quilter Goodison, which in turn is owned by the French bank, Banque Paribas. Quilter owns the other two-thirds of Faith.

The company aims to provide services to both young performers and established celebrities in the areas of income and asset management as well as corporate finance (opening a restaurant, perhaps) and administration services, such as making sure telephone bills get paid.



Behind the scenes and in the spotlight: tax expert Leslie Livers, left, advises celebrities, including A-ha, centre. Adam Faith has just entered the stage

The administration services will be charged at what Adam Faith calls book-keeping rates, whereas income management will cost their clients a fee of 2.5 per cent of the money being managed and asset management will cost up to 1 per cent a year. Adam Faith sees his company as providing a credible link between the jeans and the pin-stripes.

Who better to provide that link than someone who is not only known and admired in show business but also respected for his entrepreneurial skills in the City.

But although Adam Faith will doubtless attract show business and sports stars on the basis of his name alone, even he acknowledges that celebrities are already well looked after in the management of their careers and in straightforward accountancy matters.

Indeed, some of the accountancy advice already on offer to celebrities is not restricted to the straightforward and Faith will rightly have to prove its worth to attract clients.

Leslie Livers, a tax specialist with chartered accountants Moores and Rowland, has been handling the affairs of celebrities for several years.

He points out that the scale of international tax planning is such that some celebrities probably do not know who their advisers are.

Among the stars whom Leslie Livers has advised are Joan Sutherland, John Dankworth and Cleo Laine. The financial affairs of members of Pink Floyd also received the Livers scrutiny after they lost money in the collapse of Norton Warburg back in 1981.

One of Mr Livers' current hot properties is the Norwegian pop group A-ha, who have already notched up Britain's one hit records in 1986.

And the United States and are now on a world tour. A-ha's manager is Terry Slater, who, in true show business style, used to play bass guitar for the Everly Brothers.

Mr Livers points out quite factually that if Mr Slater was not British, A-ha's multi-million-dollar financial affairs would probably be handled by a firm such as Arthur Andersen in New York.

As Mr Livers coolly puts it, the members of A-ha have got more money than they will need in the near future. Hardly surprising when you consider that their income derives not only from record

sales but also from less obvious sources such as merchandising royalties on T-shirts and wall posters.

That being so, it clearly makes sense that all three members of A-ha have recently bought £300,000 houses in London.

There are some types of financial advice for the rich and famous where the investment vehicle itself is just the same as it is for the less well-heeled.

Unit trusts and currency funds have democratized what were previously regarded as rarefied investment media; and even direct equity invest-

ment is now of great interest to private investors.

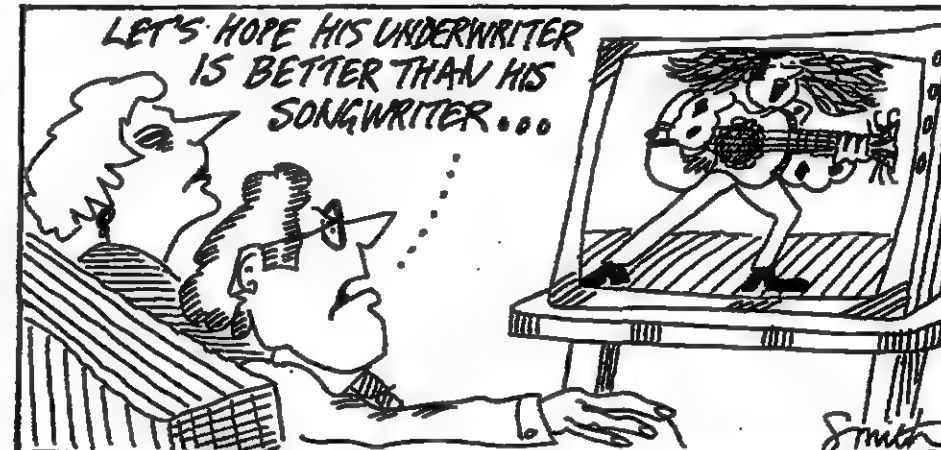
But there are other options, such as membership of Lloyd's, which are open to the ubiquitous Sid of British Gas fame only if he happens to have assets of at least £100,000 in addition to his own home.

Adam Faith says he joined Lloyd's eight years ago following a conversation with a Lloyd's managing agent at a party in Los Angeles. When he learned about the Revenue-approved Lloyd's tax breaks his only regret was that he had not signed up years earlier.

Investment in woodlands and international farming operations also confer considerable tax benefits on wealthy individuals.

A further possibility which is not open to most people is that of being technically employed by a UK company and spending at least 300 days in any 365-day period overseas. That way you are not liable to UK income tax.

Perhaps it is not just to please their fans that some pop stars go on long visits to the United States and Australia.



Peter Gartland

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

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Going up, Down Under

INVESTMENT

"Would you invest in Australia? Australia would be the last place you'd want to invest."

So said John Elliott, head of the Elders-IXL conglomerate and arguably one of the most astute Australians when it comes to investing.

Like many of the country's businessmen, he takes one look at Australia's high inflation rate, huge balance of payments deficit and uncomfortably high foreign debt, and puts his money elsewhere — £1.4 billion of it to be precise, the sum he paid Lord Hanson for the Courage beer empire.

Other Australian entrepreneurs such as Robert Holmes & Court and Alan Bond have also been notably unpatriotic with their investments in recent years.

But if the Australian economy is in such a bad state as these gentlemen seem to believe, why is the stock market touching new heights? The All-Ordinaries Index rose 9.7 to 1420.4 yesterday, 42 per cent higher than where it started the year.

The answer, familiar to all those optimists who favour Bloody Marys to cure their

hangovers, is that "if things don't look like getting much better, at least there's little chance of them getting any worse".

In fact, things have been looking up for the Australian investment scene since around mid-year, when the Australian dollar was fast sinking in the south. It was at that point that Paul Keating, the Treasurer — the Down Under version of the Chancellor — unveiled a budget that turned the screws on public spending and tightened control of the money supply.

'Attitudes led to the improvements'

At the same time, the government is taking a hard line on wage rises with the country's traditionally strong trade unions.

All this conservative economic thinking has impressed investors, especially as it comes from a Labor government.

The Australian dollar has stopped sliding off the map against the US dollar and has even appreciated against sterling. At one point the pound could buy 2.50 Australian

dollars; today it fetches 2.18.

The outlook has also been helped by the rise in the gold price, which has brought fresh life to a mining sector depressed in recent years by falling demand from the sluggish economies in Europe, Japan and the United States.

The Australian gold mine index has done even better than the overall index, more than doubling in the past five months.

All this has given a rosy complexion in recent months to the 17 unit trusts which put most of their money into Australia. In October, for example, average prices rose by 16.8 per cent on a bid-to-bid basis, according to *Money Management*.

The economic picture now presents mixed signals. On the positive side, gross domestic product, after declining for nine months, finally showed some growth in the third quarter of the year, even if the improvement was a modest 0.2 per cent.

However, the current account deficit and the overseas debt figures are still alarmingly high, while an inflation rate of almost 9 per cent is well above that of Australia's main trading rivals.

As David Hutchins, of M&G Investment Management, admits, it is attitudes rather than real economic improvement that have helped the stock markets in Australia in recent months.

"Perceptions have changed greatly towards Australia," he says. "The economic fundamentals are exactly the same as at the beginning of the year when no one wanted to know about the country."

Mr Hutchins' fund is the largest and one of the oldest of those on offer in the Australian sector and has been among the top three performers over the past one, three

and five years. Mr Hutchins is cautiously optimistic about prospects for next year.

There are some good company results starting to come through, and hopefully the current account deficit will start to flatten out by early next year," he says.

The M&G fund is about 60 per cent weighted towards the mining sector, with the rest in industrial companies. Some of these have strong overseas interests, which Mr Hutchins has chosen as a safety net just in case the Australian dollar goes walkabout again in a southerly direction.



Bob Hawke: election factor

There are other uncertainties which may mean that investors will need a bit of luck if they decide to go for the lucky country. The gold price, for example, has been kind to Australia this year but could show its more fickle side in 1987 and fall back.

In addition, the Prime Minister Bob Hawke will be forced to call a general election by March 1988 at the latest, which leads many economists to suspect that the next budget may be a vote-winning one with give-aways and tax concessions that could harm the economy.

Richard Lander

Risks of the Gas speculators

■ Your chances of success in selling British Gas shares through a bank before receiving your letter of acceptance, some time in the week beginning December 15, will depend on which bank you use. Barclays will not permit dealings in British Gas until letters of acceptance can be produced. The official line at Lloyds, Midland and National Westminster is strong discouragement of pre-acceptance letter selling but local managers do have discretion and may be prepared to allow customers of their acquaintance to sell during next week.

If you really insist on selling before receiving your letter of acceptance — and there may or may not be an advantage in doing so depending on the British Gas share price movement — you can also do so through licensed dealers such as Cleveland Securities, Harway Securities and Prior Harwin. The spread between buying and selling prices is likely to be bigger than you will get quoted by your bank or stockbroker and there may be administration charges as well. Yesterday afternoon, Cleveland was quoting a British Gas buying price of 55p and a selling price of 58p.

If you do sell shares which you are not absolutely sure you own, whether through a bank, stockbroker or licensed dealer, and if subsequently transpires that you do not own the shares, you will be liable for any market price movements that go against you.

Branching-out societies

■ With new freedoms for building societies coming into effect from January 1, the race is now on to provide a wider range of services for customers. This week the National and Provincial, Britain's seventh biggest building society, teamed up with Bank of Scotland to offer its 1.5 million customers unsecured loans for cars, furniture and other consumer durables. The finance will be provided by Bank of Scotland's wholly owned finance house, North West Securities.

National and Provincial will also be offering its customers a Visa card and cheque books, with clearing facilities provided by Bank of Scotland.

In a separate move, Leeds Permanent also announced a personal loans service, also in conjunction with North West Securities.

Meanwhile, Cheltenham & Gloucester has come up with a package of insurance products to be underwritten by Royal Insurance and an investment product in conjunction with Gartmore combining

a building society high-interest account and a unit trust.

Anglia Building Society is also beefing up its financial services range. Following an overwhelming vote of approval by members last Tuesday, the chairman Roy Duncombe outlined plans for 1987 including an interest-paying cheque account and a stockbroking service in conjunction with Hoare Govett.

The insurers' warning

■ A house costing £50,000 to rebuild in September 1985 would have cost more than £52,000 to rebuild just 12 months on, says the Association of British Insurers in a warning this week to householders to check that they have an adequate sum insured on their home building policy.

The association emphasizes that the market value of a property is not an accurate method for calculating the cost of rebuilding your home. The sum insured should take into account total reconstruction of the building, including demolition costs, professional fees



and local authority requirements for design changes.

The association produces a free leaflet, *Buildings Insurance for Homeowners*, which gives guidance on assessing rebuilding costs. It is available by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Leaflets (H), Association of British Insurers, Alderman House, Queen Street, London EC4N 1TT.

Supersonic investor

■ Vivian Robson, a 73-year-old from Colchester, Essex, is the overall winner of the Stock Exchange's balloon competition. Mr Robson, retired chairman of the Essex Naturalist Society, leaves Heathrow by Concorde tomorrow

for an all-expenses-paid trip to New York.

In June more than 2,000 balloons were released from the roof of the Stock Exchange to mark the launch of the exchange's Wider Share Ownership Campaign. Every balloon was attached to a coupon inviting the finder to enter a draw for 10 prizes of £100 of shares each.

The supersonic investor will be in New York for two days.

Changing savings

■ The Department for National Savings has announced that the guaranteed interest rates on its Ordinary Account will continue at 3 per cent a year and 6 per cent for the whole of 1987, but there will be a change in the basis of determining eligibility for the higher rate.

Any saver who keeps an account open for the whole of the year will be eligible. The 6 per cent rate will then be earned for any complete calendar month when the balance is £500 or more. For the year 1986 it was necessary to maintain a minimum balance of £100 throughout the year to be eligible for the higher rate. The first £70 of interest on the Ordinary Account is free of all income tax. Husbands and wives can each earn £70 tax-free interest.

Some words for Sid

■ Still looking for that inexpensive stocking filler that will answer all (or most) of the questions that the millions of Sids up and down the country are asking now that they have joined the share-owning democracy? You could do a lot worse than *Shares — a beginners' guide to making money*, by the financial writer Harold Baldwin. The book includes sections on how to select shares, when to sell and how to get a good deal from a stockbroker, and it is spiced with amusing tips like "Never invest your money in anything that eats or needs repainting."

The book is available from Dept SH, Woburn Publications, PO Box 379, London NW9 1NT. Good value at £1.95 plus 30p p.p.

■ In an article on writs in *Family Money* on November 22 we suggested that if someone dies intestate, without dependants, the money would go to the Crown. In fact, it will go to his nearest relations then living, following an elaborate legal table. If people get divorced, any provisions for them made in their former partner's will lapses.



Tighter line on home loans

MORTGAGES

Tax relief on mortgages is likely to become subject to more stringent rules following a highly critical report to Parliament this week.

The Committee of Public Accounts, a cross-party group of MPs, found several major faults with the system and the handling of it by the Inland Revenue.

In just three years the amount that tax relief costs the Exchequer has almost doubled. When MIRAS (mortgage interest relief at source) was introduced in April 1983 this tax relief accounted for £2.5 billion. In 1985-86 it is estimated at £4.75 billion.

The first tax perk that is likely to disappear is the one allowing single people buying a home together to claim mortgage tax relief each.

For a single person the upper limit for tax relief is on the interest on the first £30,000 of a mortgage, and a married couple is effectively treated as a single person — also restricted to £30,000.

However, unmarried couples or friends buying together can each make a claim. So the Government is making it financially prudent to stay unwed.

One way in which the Government has previously suggested this anomaly could be ended is to apply mortgage interest relief to the residence rather than the individual taxpayer.

If this change is introduced, the major impact is likely to be on young people buying in London and the South-East, where soaring house prices have pushed the average mortgage way over £30,000. The relief can be worth up to £90 a month per person and this would effectively be halved.

Although the amount that MIRAS is costing the country has doubled, the real value of the £30,000 limit to the individual taxpayer has been drastically eroded. If 1974 levels were restored, the threshold would need to be more than trebled.

Yet there are calls from various sources for the whole system of tax relief on mortgage payments to be abolished. The most recent proponents of this range from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors to the Church of England.

But the tax relief seems safe in Mrs Thatcher's hands, especially as a general election approaches.

Were one of the Opposition parties to be elected, however, it is likely that changes would be made. Removing the tax relief altogether might prove too painful politically, but it is probable that tax relief would be restricted to the basic rate.

At present, tax relief can be claimed at a person's top rate. One of the reasons for the increase in tax relief claimed is the growing popularity of endowment mortgages. When MIRAS was introduced, endowment mortgages accounted for only a quarter of new loans, but the proportion is now 70 per cent or more and building societies have encouraged wholesale switching into them.

Another area of concern in the report is top-up mortgage lending. Although this is ostensibly for home improvements, much of it goes towards the purchase of cars, holidays and so on. The Bank of England has estimated that this "leakage", as it is known, amounted to more than \$6 billion in 1985.

The report recommends that builders' receipts should be required as evidence that top-up mortgage lending is being spent on improvements.

Jane Alexander

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Applications to subscribe will be accepted only on the terms and conditions set out in the Fund Memorandum. The minimum investment is £2,000 and the maximum is £40,000. Applications, which will be treated in strict order of receipt, must be received by 19 December 1986.

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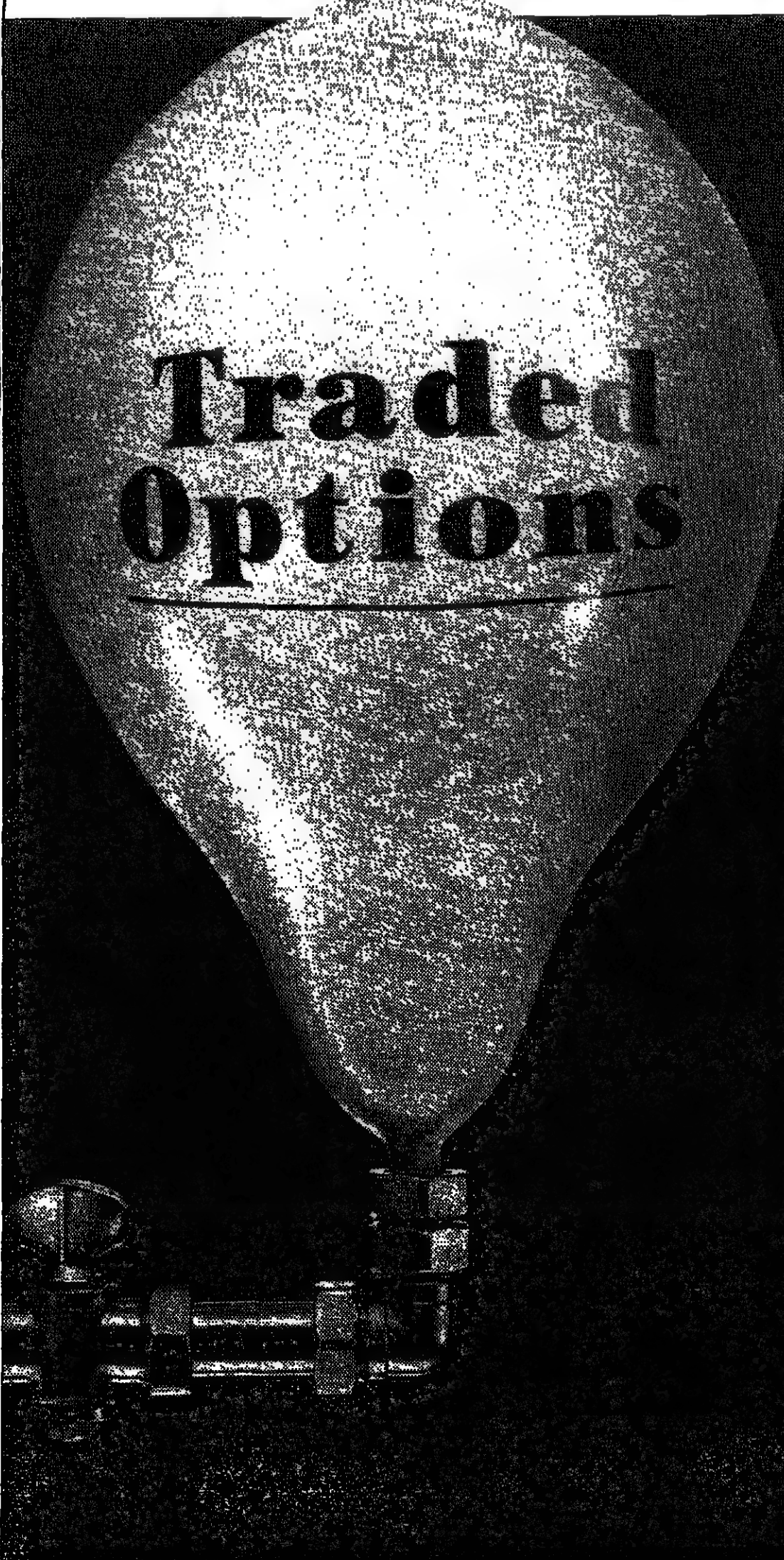
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M Plotnik	021 236 3111
L Messel & Co	
Lesley Powell	01 377 0123
Prudential Bache Capital Funding (Equities Ltd)	
Stephen Ahvey	01 293 9108
Scrimgeour Vickers & Co	
Simon Wilson	01 623 2494
Albert E Sharp & Co	
Mr J Sreeves	021 236 5801
Sheppards	
Mr M Derriman	01 378 7000
Smith New Court Agency	
Keith Williamson	01 626 4433
Sternberg Thomas Clarke & Co	
Mr P O'Donnell	01 247 8481

To find out more about the market, please contact Mary-Ann Rogers at The Options Development Group, The Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HP.

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How efficient is it in helping you to look after your clients?

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FAMILY MONEY/3

The drink driver's cover

CAR INSURANCE

The Christmas spirit is about to be uncorked, and advertisements are reappearing for a controversial type of insurance, reports JOE IRVING

Drivers can get insurance to cover themselves for the cost of alternative transport if they are banned for traffic offences, including drunk driving.

There are group facilities for companies, but the main targets are those who may not be able to afford taxis, chauffeur-driven cars or other means of getting about until the licence is restored. Remember, for many self-employed people mobility is essential.

Policies cover disqualification for traffic offences under the totting-up system where an accumulation of 12 penalty points brings a driving ban. Penalties range from three points for speeding to 10 for more serious offences, so a speeding offence, following other endorsements, can result in disqualification.

But it is the drink connection that brings widespread disapproval of this type of insurance. Because it mitigates what to many offenders is the most serious effect of a conviction, it is held to be an encouragement to drinking and driving.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

'Only one in 2,000 offenders caught'

(RoSPA) says: "It is immoral. The inconvenience of losing the licence should not be made any easier. There should be no way in which people who may kill or injure others should be allowed to escape any part of their punishment."

Don Steele, director of Action on Alcohol Abuse, said it was estimated that only one in 250 drink drivers was caught. But he adds: "It is more like one in 2,000. Insurance must be an added incentive to take that small risk."

So far this year 104,000 motorists have lost their licences, and Mr Steele says: "We are opposed to this type of insurance, but it is obviously regarded by the companies offering it as a money-spinner."

Three concerns offering cover are St Christopher Motorists' Security Association Ltd, Chauffeurplan Ltd, and Scheme Underwriting (UK) Ltd, whose policy is marketed under the name of Chauffeurguard. St Christopher policies are underwritten by Isle of Man Assurance, Chauffeurplan by New Hampshire Insurance, incorporated in the United States.

Drink-driving insurance is not cheap. The cost depends on the amount and range of

About two and a half pints of beer can be enough to reach the limit, less in some cases. This means the five-pint driver's insurance will probably not do him or her much good.

For companies offering driving-ban insurance, Christmas and the warm summer months when police are on super-alert for drunk drivers, are peak times. St Christopher, with more than 30,000 members, is dealing with 60 inquiries a day, with about six out of 10 signing up.



Don Steele: 'Opposed'



Ian Ruff: not condoning

cover chosen. Besides disqualification, loss of income due to injury, theft or accident can be covered to a limited extent.

The annual charges of St Christopher range from £64 for maximum cover of £4,000 a year to £175 for £8,500. Chauffeurplan cover costs £60 for £4,160 to £175 for £9,620. Chauffeurguard charges £25 a year for £2,000 benefit to £75 for £6,000. There are discounts for groups, and tax relief is allowed on subscriptions of self-employed people and other businesses.

Chauffeurguard will insure drivers over 21 provided the licence has not been suspended in the past five years. St Christopher and Chauffeurplan set an age limit of 25, the former stipulating that the licence has not been revoked for drink driving in the past three years. All three companies will accept for drink-driving cover applicants who already have penalty points, or have them pending.

These companies automatically reject claims from drivers who refuse to supply breath, blood or urine samples to the police. No money will be paid, either, if tests show that the alcohol level is more than twice the legal limit of 35 microgrammes per 100 millilitres of breath or 80 milligrammes per 100 millilitres of blood.

Whether they figure to any extent in the claims list is not known, but sales representatives do well enough at the recruitment end. They are paid commissions of 30 per cent of every new member's contributions, and a further 15 per cent for every year the recruit remains a member.

At any time St Christopher is processing 350 claims, with a turnover of seven to 10 days. The aftermath of Christmas will boost this to around 500 from about mid-January when cases start reaching the courts.

Of these, about 40 per cent will relate to drink-driving, but few are women. Mr Ruff says: "About 20 per cent of our membership is women, but I doubt whether one in 50 claims is from a woman."

Of drink driving he says: "We do not condone it in any way. What we insure are the further consequences of disqualification after the court has imposed its penalty. Neither my wife nor I drink at all."

Peter Greenwood, of Scheme Underwriting, says:

"The intention of the law is to prevent a suspended motorist from driving - not to restrict his mobility. This type of cover merely places a less well-off motorist in a position comparable to one who has significant personal funds."

A government-sponsored report on drinking and driving made the same point several years ago. The Blennerhassett Committee recommended no action should be taken on insurance schemes of this kind and said a disqualified driver with other means of transport was less likely to drive himself.

The committee said: "While recognizing that the offer of such insurance could create the impression that disqualification can be faced with equanimity, we believe it would be against the insurers' own interest to encourage irresponsible behaviour. There is no reason to suppose that these schemes will be detrimental to road safety."

A decade later public bodies, motoring organizations and the insurance industry as a whole remain unimpressed.

An official of the Automobile Association, which provides insurance services, said it did not comment on the activities of other insurance companies, but added: "The AA totally disagrees with drinking and driving, and we do not provide that kind of insurance."

'No straight answer from the minister'

A RoSPA official said: "We would not just like to see the alcohol limit brought down, but it should be an offence to drive after drinking anything at all."

Action on Alcohol Abuse wants Britain to follow the lead of the Scandinavian countries and ban drink-driving insurance.

Last month a delegation, including Dr John Hazard, a management board member and secretary of the British Medical Association, visited the junior transport minister, Peter Bottomley. "We did not get a straight answer on what he thinks of it," said Mr Steele. "We left a company brochure for him to study."

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After a dull start this year, European economies are now strengthening. The outlook for 1987 suggests a continuation of firm domestically-led growth. We are now beginning to witness the beneficial effects of falling oil prices, lower interest rates and negligible inflation on consumer spending. Companies are increasing their capital to finance future growth and domestic cash flow is rising sharply in response to the increasing popularity of equity investment. Target European Special Situations Fund is ideally positioned to take advantage of these developments.

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Last year proved to be a time when the greatest increases in share values occurred in some of the best known stocks. As European markets were "discovered" by fund managers the world over, it was frequently the household names which attracted the most interest.

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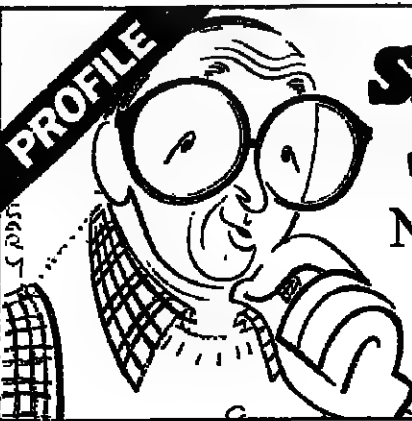
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FAMILY MONEY/4

How the experts got it all wrong

UNIT TRUSTS

November was the month when many investment experts were proved wrong. Having written off the Japanese market after two months of poor performance, they had to watch the Nikkei Dow Index bounce back to more than make up last ground.

The Japanese recovery was apparently the result of several factors, rather than any one dominant theme. The year-end period is traditionally buoyant for Japanese investors, and sentiment was further boosted by a cut in the Discount Rate and the Japanese-American accord on exchange rates.

Whatever the reason, the about-turn was reflected in the unit trust performance tables.

UNIT TRUST PERFORMANCE

Value of £100 as at December 1, 1986

THE BEST			
One Year		Three Years	
Legal & Gen Far East	218.5	Baring First Europe	323.8
Country Japan Growth	214.0	Murray European	318.6
Sun Life Far East Grn	210.0	Hill Samuel European	303.6
Eagle Star Far Eastern	202.9	M&G Euro & General	290.3
Mercury Japan	195.1	Mercury Japan	287.5
Sun Life Japan Growth	195.1	Barrington European	286.0
MIM Britannia Jap Port	192.8	Govett European Growth	280.1
Wardley Japan	189.8	Guinness Medium Recovery	277.9
TR Japan Growth	188.4	TR Special Ops	274.5
Dunedin Far East	187.7	Schroder European	270.7
Sector Average	132.4	Sector Average	176.2

THE WORST			
One Year		Three Years	
MIM Britannia Privt Shrs	94.2	Tyndall Australian Secs	82.4
Lawson Charlotte Square	94.2	Leo Capital	81.3
Lawson American Growth	93.8	MIM Britannia Wld Tech	80.6
S&P Energy Industries	92.9	Canada Growth	80.3
Wardley Smaller Cos	92.8	Target Commodity	79.9
Caspar Allen Gilt	90.9	GT American Spec Sits	78.3
Gartmore Oil and Energy	90.3	Guinness Medium Recovery	77.0
Canada Growth	88.0	KB World Technology	74.0
Bridge Int Recovery	88.4	MIM Britannia Uni Eng	65.5
MIM Britannia Uni Eng	82.0	Sentinel American Tech	64.6

Offer to bid basis

Net income reinvested

Source: Planned Savings



Smile

vent the market finishing the month close to its all-time high.

The swift change in market direction and the US currency's continuing weakness, however, saw few of the US-invested unit trusts making gains over November, and most of them are still in the bottom half of the longer-term performance tables.

Generally, performances overall in the unit trust market were rather muted last month — only one fund in the industry managed a gain of more than 10 per cent, Kleinwort Benson's Japanese Growth. Gold funds did well again on the back of the weak dollar and further developments in South Africa, although none matched the double-figure increase of the FT Gold Mines Index.

One sector to keep an eye on, though, is that containing the handful of funds specialising in investment trust shares. There are only eight such unit trusts, but all made a profit last month, something only Japan could match.

Institutional activity in the investment trust sector has been building up in the past year, with American investors in particular showing signs of buying into the market in greater volume. The Government's PEP scheme should also boost investment trust sales, while the growth of predatory interest — large shareholders gaining control with a view to unitizing the fund and cashing in on the discount — can lead to rapid moves in share prices.

Special offers to keep the investors happy

PERKS

Perks are not unusual among companies that want to encourage investors to buy and hold their shares.

But perks should never be considered in isolation. Buy a share that is fundamentally sound with good earnings and growth prospects, not because it offers a discount on its goods. If there is a sweetener in the form of a concession for shareholders, so much the better.

Not all perks are automatically available. Some must be applied for. Others require a minimum number of shares.

The perks themselves range widely from a sample pack of groceries for shareholders

Cheque or cash is needed, not a card

attending the annual meeting of Associated British Foods to the 15 per cent discount on most purchases at Asprey, the Bond Street Jeweller.

At ABF, no minimum number of shares is required. At Asprey, you need at least 1,125 ordinary shares for the 15 per cent discount and you must pay by cheque or cash, not with plastic money.

With its annual accounts and half-year statement, Trust House Forte sends an application form for a book of leisure cheques, each entitling investors with a minimum of 500 shares to 10 per cent discounts at all Lillywhite sports shops and more than 200 hotels.

At this time of year many a person's fancy turns to wine and other benedictions of the

spirit. Merrydown Wine on the Unlisted Securities Market offers shareholders a 20 per cent discount on many of the company's products, including vintage ciders, elderberry, gooseberry and other country wines, and sample bottles of post 350ml of cider vinegar, raspberry, tarragon and garlic.

For those who turn up at the annual meeting, there is a buffet lunch with a product tasting to follow.

Different tastes are catered for in the discounts at Grand Metropolitan Group with four £1 vouchers off the cost of some beers and Smirnoff vodka.

Even more popular is the £4 reduction on a meal for two, excluding Saturdays, at any Berni Inn. According to Tim Halliwell, of Grand Metropolitan, more than 17,000 shareholders took advantage of this concession during this year.

The group also offers discounts to its health buffs with a Health Fitness Centre. A list of offers and vouchers comes with the annual report.

Norfolk Capital Group's discount of 10 per cent on its London and country hotels can be laced with a Christmas flavour at the Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate, from December 24 to 27.

Christmas hampers, ranging from the £900 "Olympus" to £20 gifts of delicacies such as smoked salmon, port and Stilton cheese, come from Park Food Group at Birkenhead, with a 20 per cent discount allowed for shareholders.

The concessions on European Ferries are among the best known and most frequently used.

Shareholders get a 50 per cent discount on the Dover to Calais, Boulogne and Zeebrugge routes, a 40 per cent discount on the Portsmouth to Cherbourg and Le Havre routes, and a 25 per cent discount between Cairnryan and Larne.

The concession is for an unlimited number of return crossings with private car plus four people. There are some restrictions at peak hours.

To qualify for the travel concessions in 1987, you must hold 300 £1 preference shares, and be on the register by December 31, so there is not much time. After that date the qualifying number of preference shares doubles to 600.

Any holder of 150 types of perks is offered by companies to their shareholders.

One company gives Centre Court seats

from calculators (Fobel International) to gardening tools (Spear and Jackson), toys and games (Burtons Group at Hamleys), with dry cleaning and shoe repairing (Sketchleys) en route.

The most common concessions are on restaurants, hotels, holidays, wines and entertainments, including a Centre Court or No 1 seat at Wimbledon (non-interest-bearing debentures).

Seymour, Pierce & Co. Stockbrokers, of 10 Old Jewry, London EC2R 8EA, will be publishing a new edition of their book, *Concessionary Discounts Available to Shareholders in UK Companies 1986-87*, priced at £1.50, early next month.

Jennie Hawthorne

Residence test for tenant's successor

Swanbrae Ltd v Elliott
Before Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Swinton Thomas
[Judgment November 27]

A person claiming a statutory tenancy by succession under the Rent Acts might reside with a relevant relative for the requisite period and have more than one home or more than one residence. Such a person had to show, however, that he or she had made a home at the premises and had become, in the true sense, a part of the household of the deceased relative.

The Court of Appeal, in a reserved judgment, dismissed an appeal by the defendant, Mrs Sheila Elliott, against a judgment of Judge Doherty, at Bow County Court, whereby the judge ordered Mrs Elliott to give possession of the dwelling house known as 49 Wellington Road, East Ham, London, to the plaintiffs, Swanbrae Ltd.

Mr Terence Gallivan for Mrs Elliott; Mr Roger McCarthy for the plaintiffs landlords.

MR JUSTICE SWINTON THOMAS said that in October 1948 the landlords' predecessor in title granted a tenancy to Mrs Elliott's parents. Her father died in September 1981 and her mother on April 20, 1985.

To the landlords' claim for possession Mrs Elliott pleaded in her defence that she was the successor to her mother and was, thus, entitled to a statutory tenancy of the premises.

There was no dispute that Mrs Elliott was a member of the family or that she had been staying at the premises for a period in excess of six months prior to the mother's death. There was no dispute that the mother was a statutory tenant.

The sole dispute was whether Mrs Elliott was residing with her mother for the requisite period.

Mrs Elliott lived at 49 Wellington Road, as her home with her parents until she married. She regarded it as her home prior to her marriage. In about 1971 she and her husband went to live about two miles away at 4 Gainsborough Avenue, Manor Park, London.

Her husband was the tenant of those premises. He left in about 1978 leaving Mrs Elliott and their son living at those premises.

HER LADYSHIP said that the chief constable had not sought an order of certiorari to quash the order for release but

In 1983 the mother became ill with cancer. Mrs Elliott visited her regularly. In September 1984 Mrs Elliott moved into 48 Wellington Road in order to look after the mother. She retained the tenancy of 4 Gainsborough Avenue and her son continued living there.

The judge found as a fact that Mrs Elliott had a secure home at 4 Gainsborough Avenue. Between September 1984 and her mother's death she slept at 49 Wellington Road at least three to four nights a week but she continued to pay the rent and the outgoings on 4 Gainsborough Avenue, and her post continued to be sent to that address.

In those circumstances the judge had to resolve whether or not for the material period Mrs Elliott was "residing with" her mother.

The court should bear in mind that questions of "residence" and "residing at" were very much ones of fact and degree. A judge had to view the quality of the residence alleged and come to a conclusion on the totality of it as to whether in truth it fell within the proper usage of the term "residing with".

In the present case the judge posed the correct test, namely, whether Mrs Elliott was entitled to claim that she was residing with her mother at the time and had been for six months before her death.

Then the judge added that the landlords' counsel correctly submitted that if Mrs Elliott intended to return to her abode or did not make a decision as to her future while living at her mother's she could not be classified as a person "residing with" her mother.

Since Mrs Elliott did indeed have a settled abode and residence at 4 Gainsborough Avenue, and that, if in those particular circumstances she intended to return to her abode and had not made a decision as to her future she could not be classified as a person "residing with" her mother. She was not protected by the Rent Acts.

Lord Justice Kerr gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Wiseman Greenman & Lee, East Ham; Wallace Bogan & Co. Stepney.

Police can be heard

Regina v Bristol Justices, Ex parte Broome
Before Mrs Justice Booth
[Judgment November 28]

It was in the best interests of a child that the police should be heard on an application for his release under section 28(5) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 following his detention by a police constable under section 28(2).

Mrs Justice Booth, sitting as an additional judge in the Queen's Bench Division, so declared on the application of Mr Ronald Broome, Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset, for judicial review following a hearing for the release of a child aged seven who had been detained after she had been seen shoplifting in the company of her mother.

Mr David H. Fletcher for the chief constable.

HER LADYSHIP said that the chief constable had not sought an order of certiorari to quash the order for release but

sought a declaration to establish the principle of the right of the police to be present and heard at the hearing of an application to release a child detained under section 28(2) of the 1969 Act.

The child in question had been detained on Friday May 9, 1986. The application for release had come before a single justice on Sunday May 11. The justice, accepting the advice of the clerk to the justices had excluded the police from the hearing. It was the duty of a justice to protect the child and it might well be in a child's own interest to be further detained.

By denying the police the right to be heard the justice did not have all the information required when considering the best interests of the child.

There would be a declaration that on an application for the release of a child under section 28(5) that the police should be present and heard at the hearing and to give evidence.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Bristol.

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25.00-30.00	7.46 7.86	01 494 2099
30.00-35.00	7.86 7.86	01 738 1000
35.00-40.00	7.86 7.86	01 738 1000
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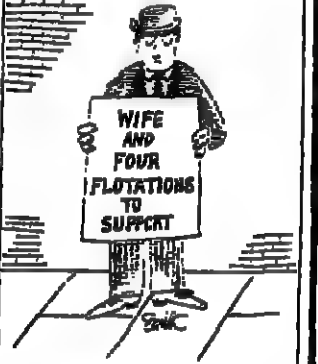
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